

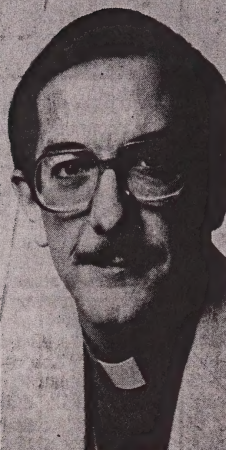
A-4

Ventura County
Star-Free Press

Sat., Dec. 12, 1981

Religion

I thought
that you would
like to see this.
D.



Frank Scott
New Ventura pastor

Church to get new pastor in Sunday rite

The Rev. Frank Scott will be installed Sunday as the new pastor of Metropolitan Community Church in Ventura.

The Rev. Bob Arthur, district coordinator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches will officiate, and members of the Long Beach MCC men's choir will be on hand for a special musical presentation. A potluck dinner will follow the installation.

Scott moved to Ventura recently from Virginia, where he had been a pastor for several years.

Scott had been preparing to move to London, England, to work with the World Church extension of the UFMCC to help establish new missions, but because of the instability of the economy in England, all work visas were canceled.

Members of the Ventura congregation learned of Scott's availability, and invited him to become their new pastor.



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The Prophet

April '81



Metropolitan Community Church
of Albuquerque

112 MORNINGSIDE N.E.



"Fear ye not therefore, ye are of
more value than many sparrows."

- MATTHEW 10: 31



Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee: and before thou camest forth out of the womb, I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a Prophet to the nations. --Jeremiah-K-5

THE PROPHET is a publication of the Metropolitan Community Church of Albuquerque, New Mexico, a Mission of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. We invite ALL persons, regardless of age, gender, national origin, race, socio-economic condition, affectional preference or religious persuasion to share with us in our church life and community. ALL are welcome! Visit us soon!

The Rev. Louis deSpain ----- Pastor

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— From Our Pastor —



Is your God too small? Humanly, all too often, we confine our God to a very small space with very little power in our lives. Unfortunately, for far too many people, God is relegated to "conscience," that nagging, cajoling inner voice that is so easy to manipulate. Or is God possibly "in a box" whose outlines are circumscribed by the faith of others, denomination, dogma or the odd mixture of honest conviction, difference of opinion and tradition. Whatever materials are used to "build the Box" are worth less than the rain sodden rags of a cardboard box, moldering in the city dump.

When things go well and we feel secure, it is easy for us to attribute greatness to God. Our Creator will seem as big as all out doors and praises slip so easily from our lips. When glamour or recognition comes our way we find great comfort in the recognition and can find it in ourselves to give some praise to Jesus. When we finally land that position that gives us the power we "have always known we deserved" God is really O.K.! Our adoration falls from grateful lips effusively, and the songs of joy resound without even a sour note. Oh, happy day!

Then comes Monday morning. Since things have been going so well and time is short, Jesus and prayer get shoved back in the corner for "later in the day when I can really get into it." Oh, darn! There's a flat tire on the car. Get it changed quickly, then away we go. Suddenly comes the realization that the garage door was left open and the back door unlocked. In frustration, the return trip home is accomplished only at home there is an overdraft notice in the mail. By the time the day is really begun, yesterday's high has become this morning's "in the basement" migraine. Why on earth can all these things be happening to me? I've been so good!

If we confess with our mouths Jesus, Savior, then there is nothing that we have to handle alone. With a flat tire our Parent still fills the universe! With an overdraft, all of our supply still has One Source. Our God will be as GREAT or as small as we will allow. So often Jesus tried to tell us as he opened blind eyes, straightened crooked arms and legs, unstopped deaf ears and raised the dead, that we are loved. "Believe like little children. Their faith and trust are simple, not confused with dissembling. Trust in your Parent. Even the hairs of your head are numbered." Think about it! There are probably very few of us who, when we were small, did not think that "Mom or Dad could fix anything!"

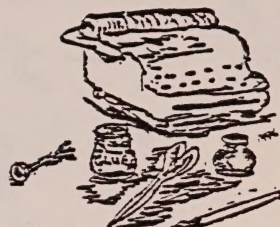
Love, *Louis*



YOUR YOU
WARMS
MY ME....

from the editor

ON MEMBERSHIP



Recently I had occasion to try to remember the commitments I made upon becoming a member of UFMCC and I found I could not recall exactly the questions asked nor the promises made.

This disturbed me and I could not help but wonder how many of us could really recall all we had agreed to when we dedicated or re-dedicated our lives to Jesus Christ. Do you remember? If not, here are the questions asked of us and things we all pledged to do as members:

1. Do you believe in God - the Creator of all things?
2. Do you believe Jesus is the Christ?
3. Do you believe in the Spirit - God is with us now?
4. Will you continue in the Lord's teachings and in fellowship, in the breaking of bread, in fidelity to the Scriptures and in prayer?
5. Will you persevere in resisting evil and whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to your Lord?
6. Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?
7. Will you seek and serve the Lord in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
8. Will you strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being?
9. Will you accept and adhere to the By-Laws of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches?
10. Will you tithe to the Fellowship of your time, energy and finances as the Lord has blessed you?

Indeed, it is safe to assume we, as members, of UFMCC, all answered "I do" and "I will" to all those questions put to us, but do we realize what our saying, "yes" to Jesus entailed? Did we actually know by assenting, we became servants, workers, lovers and witnesses for Jesus Christ? Also, we promised to do all those things in every aspect of our daily lives and not just on Sundays during worship? Think on this, then realize what a tall order we undertook! Have we lived up to our commitment, did we understand what it meant?

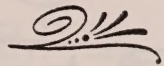
It meant and means we must comfort when we need comforting; seek rather than being sought, love more often than we are loved. We must hope for the hopeless; pray for the faithless and like the unlikable, care for the uncaring. It meant and means we must open unseeing eyes and unstop unhearing ears to the glory and love of Jesus, the Holy Spirit and all the redemption He has for us, showing them the victory that is salvation. These are the promises we made as members.

What about our reward? It comes with the certain love Jesus has for us all, the assurance that HE loves us when we're unlovable, cares when we are uncaring, forgives when we are unforgiving and is with us when we repent and try again. This is our reward and our purpose and our way. I thank God for it! How about you? Do you remember to be grateful, do you recall the promises you made?

Peace and love, Michael

PROFILE

Gerry Warner



In this month's "Profile," we want you to get acquainted with our many-faceted pianist, Charter-Member of MCCA, member of the Board, Deacon Candidate, and exceptional Christian human being.

Those who know Gerry call him "The Queen", because of his attitude of seemingly being "above-it-all" concerning the many life-trials that plague us at times. He always manages to bring these "stops in the road" down to basics and puts problems into proper perspective, making them easier to deal with. "Give it to Jesus" is his answer to difficulties, and "Trust in the Lord" the best solution to fear. When things seem to get to the breaking point for some of us, Gerry rightfully reminds us that "Jesus always loves you." You know he's right, not only by what he says when you need to hear it the most, but by his life, and the way he lives it. His actions show the total belief that Jesus is the answer for all things of this life, and through Him nothing is impossible.

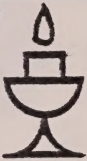
Besides his timely words, Gerry shows us in other ways his love for the Lord. His playing every Sunday for services gives lyrical evidence of this fact, and helps manifest his worship of Jesus Christ. His music transports him and, fortunately, us as well, toward the love and thanksgiving we feel for the infinite number of blessings the Lord pours down on us. As members, we are blessed in being able to join Gerry in this worship and praise, as he returns his talented gifts to God. It goes up to God, and we receive the wonderful "fall-out!"

Gerry has never had a long-term goal. He just trustingly does as God directs, and things fall into place for him. He had no all-consuming desire to own his own Salon; it just seemed to work out that way, by letting the Lord handle his life - present and future. In his business of making people more beautiful in the eyes of the world, Gerry manages to show his patrons that most, if not all, beauty comes from the love of God and the blessings of the Holy Spirit. He does this both verbally, and by his heart-felt and spirit-shown concern for others.

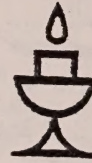
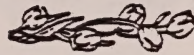
However, Gerry's caring is not just lip-service. He shows his concern for the Church and service to others by regular tithing. Indeed, he credits tithing for his success in the business world. He always gives back to God a portion of God's gifts to him. His caring extends to helping provide food and shelter in his own home to those in need, and besides these material things, he faithfully gives his loving concern. Christianity in action! Living and doing God's will!

Continued on page 7...





Dear Lord,



Accept Our Thanks.... for

The continuing growth of our Church as we step out in faith.

The blessings the many of our family whose support we can always count upon to be there when it's needed the most.

The dedication of our Pastor and the growth of the Church staff as we now have 2 Deacon Candidates and 2 Ministerial Students who are a great help to us all.

The Easter season which renews the promises made by our Lord and shows us once again the miracle in store for us all.

Hear Our Prayers.... for

The swift and safe return of Donna, Brenda and Don. We need and miss them. Lord keep them safe until their return to our family.

Those who are no longer with us for whatever reason. Keep them, Lord in the palm of Your hand.

Those who may be hungry, homeless, lonely and discouraged. Please, Lord, show them Your love and Your way to happiness.

For our far-away Family, Four Corners MCC, as they struggle toward growth in Thy will and purpose.

In Christ's Name,

AMEN

COMING UP.....

April 3rd through 5th, EXCEL week-end in Tempe, Arizona.

Sing! Praise! Prayer! Every Wednesday at 7:30 at the Church

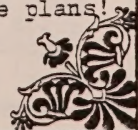
Palm Sunday Service 6:00 p.m. April 12th to begin Holy Week

Holy Thursday Service at 7:30 April 16th. Join us in worship!

Good Friday Service at 7:30 April 17th, 7:30. A Special Service!

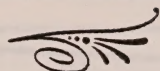
Bob Arthur visits from April 16th through April 19th. Great!!

District Conference, May in Santa Ana, California. Make plans!



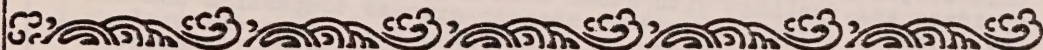
Gerry Warner —

(Continued from page 5)



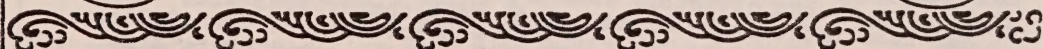
All this should not create the impression that Gerry is unflappable. There are times when he becomes very angry. This emerges, though, with great control and quietness of purpose, especially when he sees injustice being done, or someone being misinformed, deceitfulness, maliciousness, or manipulation of others. Gerry, too, has little patience with "self-will run riot." He is adamant in his belief that these types are tools of the enemy, and is ready to do battle with anyone who attempts to "come between me and my Jesus."

While all about him are loosing their heads, Gerry remains secure in his knowledge of the Lord's love for him and his love for the Lord. We would all do well to emulate Gerry and "let Jesus handle it."



MATURITY is the ability to do a job whether or not you are supervised, to carry money without spending it and to bear an injustice without wanting to get even.

—Ann Landers, Field Newspaper Syndicate



822-0604

men

women



Styling

Hair

Gerry's

manicures
pedicures
sculptured nails

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The Church and the Homosexual

Part 1

In preparation, I browsed through books on a long reading list and talked with numerous individuals - straight and gays, medical doctors and psychiatrists, ministers and members of their congregation, men and women, young and old, Christians and Jews. A lot of time was spent getting "into" the Biblical passages on this subject. I prayed and meditated, and began to share some of my ideas and feelings with other members of the Christian community. Then I suggested that we need to express compassion and acceptance toward all members of society among us, regardless of their sexual preferences. The intensity of the anger I encountered almost swept me off my feet! The deep primal feelings many of us have on this subject have been so repressed that when we are confronted with them, they break out like a pent-up storm. Most difficult to handle was the embarrassment of my friends who still love me but obviously feel I have made a terrible mistake. It has been impossible for me not to make comparisons with the emotions growing out of the civil rights movement of the 1960's. It is not surprising that gay rights advocates are linking arms these days and singing, "We shall overcome!"

The thing that impressed me most and moved me deeply was the discovery of the incredible amount of suffering experienced by homosexuals. For centuries the church refused to serve them Holy Communion. They were often stripped, castrated, marched through the streets and executed. In Hitler's Germany they were exterminated by the thousands in the furnaces and gas chambers. And in the United States, gay persons are disowned by their families, ridiculed and rejected by society, made the object of cruel jokes, and forced to laugh at the jokes lest their "secret" be revealed. They are barred from jobs and housing, often living in loneliness, seeking companionship in sordid places and in devious and dangerous ways. They have become the "lepers" of our society. How many young people are there who lie awake at night, terrified by these "feelings," with no one to talk to? Is this one of the reasons for the increase in adolescent suicide? One young man told his parents he was a homosexual. His mother said, "Son, I have made only one mistake in my life." "What is it?", he asked. "I should have had an abortion when I was pregnant with you." From that time, she spoke to her friends as if her son was dead. A high school boy told his parents he was gay. On his graduation day, his father gave him his graduation gift - an envelope with a one-way plane ticket and twenty-five dollars. "Start packing," he said. He drove the boy to the airport in total silence and said to him as he got out of the car, "I never want to hear from you again." I would like to believe that these are exceptional situations. They are not. It has become increasingly clear to me that homosexuals are the ridiculed and rejected persons of our



continued on page 11

Replay.. things worth repeating.....



AT LAST! MODEL PASTOR FOUND!

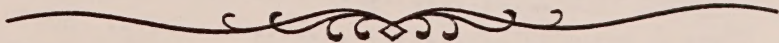
After hundreds of years of search, a model pastor to suit everyone has been found, according to an article in the CHRISTIAN BEACON:

"He or she preaches exactly twenty minutes, then sits down. He or she condemns sin, but never hurts anyone's feelings. He or she works from 8 A.M. until 10 P.M. in every type of work, from preaching to custodial service. This pastor makes \$60 a week, wears good clothes, buys good books regularly, has a very nice spouse and family, drives a nice car, and gives \$30 a week to the church. She or he also stands ready to contribute to every good cause that comes along.

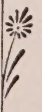
This ideal pastor is 26 years old, and has been preaching for 30 years. Tall and short, thin and heavy set, handsome and pretty. One brown eye and one blue eye, hair parted in the middle and on the left side dark and straight, and on the right side blond and wavy. He or she has a burning desire to work with teenagers and spends every available minute with the older folks. She or he spends all their time with a straight face because of the sense of humor that keeps them dedicated to their work. They make 15 calls a day on church members, spend all their time evangelizing the unchurched and are never out of the office."

And in MCC, we might add, "He or she is totally monogamous and available to every person in the church who wants to have an affair. She or he is in an open and closed relationship, loves all kinds of music, wears leather and chiffon, skirts and slacks, and never drinks. He or she is expected to have a beer in hand while visiting every bar in town to evangelize, and relies totally on the local Board of Directors, who are in his or her pocket, whose puppet he or she is, while he or she makes all the decisions alone."

(Reprinted with thanks from the BELL RINGER, Philadelphia MCC)



When you long for blessings that you
may not name, and when you grieve knowing not the cause,
then indeed you are growing with all things that grow,
and rising toward your greater self.



KALIL GIBRAN

reflections in the fire

It's Winter in the Jemez Mountains, and I spend a lot of time prodding the hot coals in our wood stove into burning flames that will heat our tiny home and cook our meals. Such basic human activity always leads me to more romantic comparisons, as I believe there is much truth to be found and learned from the mundane but necessary.

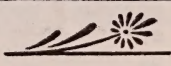
I jostle the embers with a stick, and in their glowing heat, I see the other burning truths of my world. The fire heats my cast iron stove so it can give me nourishment of body -- my heart beats warm within me so I can spread warmth outward by loving others. My planet, Earth, is powered by a fiery hot core, giving it individuality and life, so it can sustain life for us all. God's fire, the energy of the Holy Spirit, burned first within Christ, and now within all men so that they might know the Truth, the Way - yes, and the Light.

The fires in my life are very precious, for each one helps me live and leads me on.

— ELLEN SLINN-KURDI —



They that won't be counseled, can't be helped.



—B. FRANKLIN

Russell D. Gray, Jr.

Attorney at Law

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"Let's just praise the Lord!"
— Jerry and Michael Luntz

The Church and the Homosexual (cont. from page 8) —

society, as they have been for centuries. It is also clear that Jesus came to minister to the ridiculed and rejected. He ministered to them so completely that he became identified with them, and was ultimately crucified as one of the ridiculed and rejected himself. He came to bring God's love to them, to tell them that they are loved, that they are accepted. I am convinced that those of us who are homosexuals in the church, the body of Christ, are called to offer this same Christ-like love to everyone in our present society who is ridiculed and rejected because of their orientation.

But why did this suggestion arouse so much anger? Perhaps a better understanding of the unresolved issues surrounding homosexuality will defuse some of the anger and make it possible for us to move together toward a creative and life-enhancing solution to this problem. What a shock it was for me to discover that we have been misinterpreting many of the Scriptural passages on this subject! What a tragedy it is that countless persons have suffered terribly because of this misinterpretation. Most of us have been led by "straight" society to believe that the Bible labels all homosexuals as sinners and condemns all homosexual activity as contrary to the will of God. As a result, there has been an absolute and sweeping condemnation of homosexuality in both the Jewish and Christian traditions. In recent years, however, increasing numbers of scholars are taking a deeper look at the relevant passages and concluding that any such sweeping condemnation of homosexuality based on Biblical "proof-texting" cannot be justified.



Next Month, Part 2, "The Story of Sodom and Gomorrah" in this 4 part series by Doug Olson.



Poetry Page



She passes by us daily,
Bare foot and tattered gown,
Unnoticed by the busy crowd,
Untouched by the feverish life.

She sees and knows and feels all things.
She hears and listens and understands.
She's one word away and one soul near.
Take Her hand in your joy; be embraced in your strife.



Sharon Allen

"THE EVERGREEN TREE"

"The Evergreen tree, so stately there,
Looked down at me, in my despair.
'Young lad, with a face so sad,' it said,
'Come over to me, and you'll be glad.'
As I walked through the monstrous branches under,
A calmness came, to belie the thunder
Crashing over my head.
'Don't be afraid,' the voice said,
'Just put your foot on my first branch there;
You'll see I'm strong and can help you along.'
Climbing higher and higher, I felt the
Tender strength under my feet.
'If you keep coming,' I heard it say,
'You'll know God's peace by the end of the day.'
Finally, at the top, I looked out with the
Sight of a bird, to see
All my troubles I'd left on the ground,
And, up here, there were none to be found!
'See, my little lad so sad,
You took the first step toward me, and had ...
A faith as strong as day is long;
Now, go and tell your friends that I,
The Evergreen Tree, would like to see them climb me, too,
And, like you, enjoy the view from the top.
Run now ... don't stop!' "



BILL GOBER, JR.

Book Review ...

by David Cox



WOMANLIST
by Marjorie P-K Weiser and Jean Arbeiter
Atheneum Books
\$10.95

If you are a trivia fan, or simply a fan of women, you will really like this one: Womanlist by Weiser and Arbeiter, and published by Atheneum. From this very recently published book we found the following trifles. We think you will enjoy the trivia and the book. By the way, your best bet in finding it is at Full Circle Books; some of the major bookstores in town seemed unaware of it, though Paula says she's expecting her order any day now.

QUESTIONS

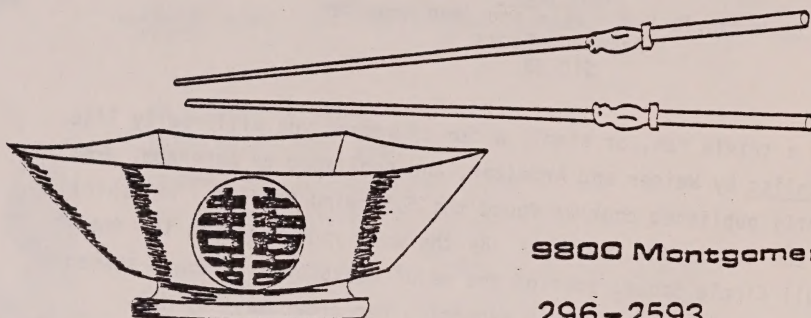
ANSWERS

1. How many women have been Time magazine's "Man of the Year?" 1. Three—Wallis Warfield Simpson (1936), Madam Chiang Kai-Shek (1937) and Queen Elizabeth II (1952).
2. Who were the only mother and son to be elected to Congress at the same time? 2. Frances Payne Bolton and son Oliver Payne Bolton, Ohio Republicans, were elected to the 83rd Congress in 1952.
3. Who were the only mother and daughter to both win the Nobel Prize? 3. Marie Curie (1903 and 1911) and her daughter Irene Joliot-Curie (1935)
4. Who holds more athletic medals and prizes and is regarded as the sports champion of this century? 4. She is Babe Didrikson Zaharias, and has dominated more tournaments than any other athlete this century.
5. Who is the only woman winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor? 5. It was for her services as a surgeon in in the 52nd Ohio regiment during the Civil War that Mary Walker won honor.
6. Which two actresses won the Academy Award three times? 6. Katherine Hepburn (Morning Glory 1932, Guess Who's Coming to Dinner 1967, The Lion in Winter 1968), and Ingrid Bergman (Gaslight 1944, Anastasia 1956, and Murder on the Orient Express 1974).
7. What woman journalist and television commentator inspired the song "Ain't She Sweet?" 7. Shana Alexander. Her Father, Milton Ager, was a composer, and he wrote this tune to celebrate Shana's birth.
8. What secret did a top ranking British Army medical officer carry all his life? 8. It was discovered after his death that this he was a she, and his ... well her name was actually Miranda Stuart!
9. What woman celebrated her 43rd birthday by barrelling over the falls of Niagra? 9. Annie Edson Taylor, in 1901, was the first person and the only woman since to go over the Falls in a wooden barrel.
10. Who was Socrates' teacher? 10. Aspasia was his teacher. She was also the mistress of Pericles and a mathematical scholar herself.

A critic is a legless man who teaches running.

- Channing Pollock

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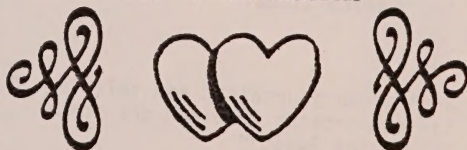
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Community News...

"CHRIST IN THE POOR"



At the end of January 1981, a full-time street ministry was begun in Albuquerque. It is called "Christ in the Poor." The street pastor is Fr. Jim Kennedy. The fundamental function of the ministry is to serve Jesus, as He continues to suffer in His little ones, the poor, the unwanted, and unloved and lonely folks who wander our streets, who seek escape in bars, drugs, and prostitution.

The ministry has a Council of Overseers drawn ecumenically from different Christian families. The Council includes: Albuquerque Police Chaplain Pastor Jack Price; MCC Pastor, the Rev. Louis DeSpain; Dr. Mark Rutledge, director of United Campus Ministries at UNM; Canon Paul Saunders, Vicar to the Episcopal Bishop; Dr. Frederica Daly, director of the Juvenile Forensic Unit at the Juvenile Justice Center; Fr. George Sondergaard, Pastor of Sts. Cosmas and Damian Orthodox Church; Fr. Judd Wagg, director of the Storehouse; Fr. Charles Brown, Asst. Pastor of Sangre de Cristo Roman Catholic Parish; Mr. Fred Leach, moderator of the Witness Stand, the Inter-Church Agency's TV program.

"Christ in the Poor" sees its function as being the presence of the Christian Church among street people and poorest of the poor, irregardless of age, sex, orientation, or social status. It means being present at night until the wee hours of the morning on the strip, in bars and restaurants, in the parks - wherever there are lonely people, disoriented people, people in need; being present to listen and comfort; to suggest places where help might be obtained; to counsel; to hold someone when they need to cry. It means spending two days a week in solitary prayer for the flock, and the days in quiet prayer, saying Mass and the Divine Office, and an hour each evening before going to the streets in silent meditation. For Fr. Jim, it means being dependent on others for their support, financially and spiritually.

The street ministry needs a car to be placed at its disposal so the many and diverse areas of the City may be reached at night. It needs sustaining donations so living expenses and other needs may be met. It is not an ordinary ministry by its very nature, which allows one to hold a secular job while doing the ministry. Volunteers who can help one or two nights a week, are needed.

It is summed up best by Mother Teresa of Calcutta: "Here you have a different kind of poverty - a poverty of the spirit, of loneliness, and of being unwanted. That is the worst disease in the world today - not tuberculosis or leprosy. People should give their hearts to love these poor, and also their hands to serve them. Actually, we are touching Christ's body in the poor. In them, it's the hungry Christ we are feeding; it's the naked Christ we are clothing; it's the homeless Christ that we are giving shelter. It isn't just hunger for bread, or the need of the naked for clothes, or of the homeless for a home made of bricks - it's a hunger for love, for being cared for, for being wanted, for having someone to call their own."

continued on page 18



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GAY ISSUES

M-F 10-6 SAT 10-5 SUN 1-5

We're Sorry

Due to the wonderful response of so many contributions to the Prophet, we didn't have enough room to print all that was sent in, and while we are grateful, we are also sorry we didn't get everything in this issue. But we have carefully saved it all and it will appear in future issues, we promise.

We hope you will continue to send us articles, poems and any thing you consider will be of interest as we can use all the contributions we can get.

Thank you again and please keep sending.

THE PROPHET STAFF

Four Corners MCC

Gerry, Chuck and Michael Anne went to visit with our MSC family on March 15 and were glad to see the interest shown by those there. They plan to avertise and get a phone so people can get in touch and also write. Ken offered a post office box and we are in hope they will start to really grow.

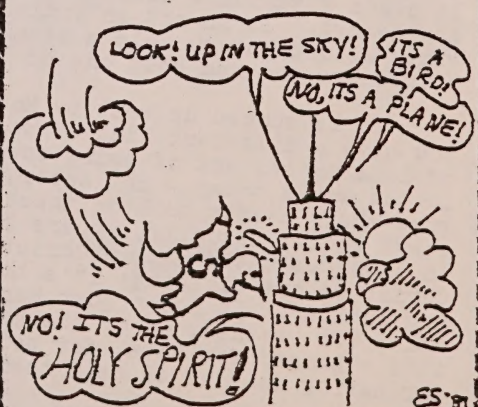
Lets keep them in our prayers and let them know we care and love them.

Several members there are going to be at EXCEL in Tempe and we will be glad to see them again.

Coming Soon

The Further Adventures of
The HOLY SPIRIT

ES '81



etcetera.....



"I'm so sorry you've been inconvenienced, Wotan. I just naturally thought when I said 'God' that I would get—you know—Jehovah."

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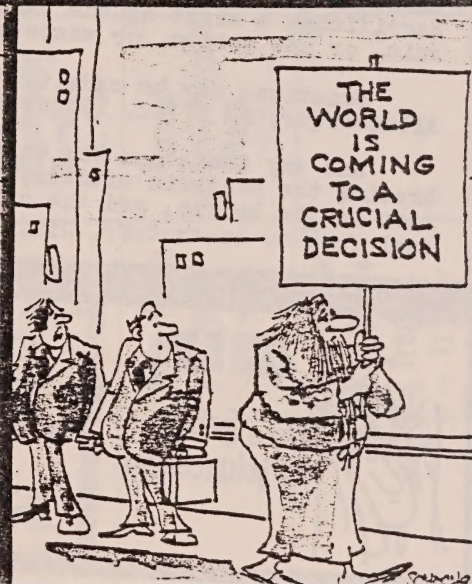
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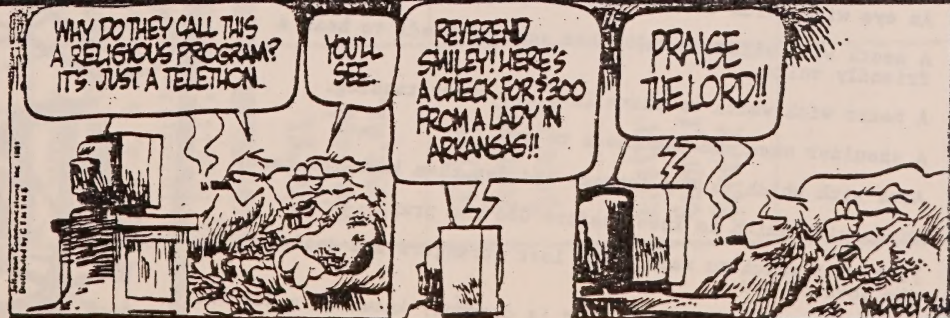
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WE COULDN'T CONCEIVE of a miracle if none had ever happened.

—Libbie Fudim

EDITORIAL



"Christ in the Poor" (continued from page 15)

It is to Christ that we give and Him we serve in these people, in whom He comes to us in distressing disguise, as the unwanted and unlovable one. He asks us to enliven our faith by the way we serve and receive Him in them - not by giving a dime here or there, an old shirt, a dented can setting on a pantry shelf for six months- but sacrificially, as befits Him, our Lord, in these His little ones ... giving when it hurts, the best we have. Sacrificing a night at the bars, or baths, giving up that new suit, or new stereo, or whatever...that He may be ministered to.

Donations may be made to "Christ in the Poor", 802½ Arno SE, Albuquerque, NM 87102. Phone 242-7231.

And any Christian who wishes to give their whole life to embracing the monastic witness, to living half the time as a solitary in the barrio, and the other half working among the poor, feel free to contact Fr. Jim.

HELP!



We're looking
for Volunteers!

CERTAIN THOUGHTS are prayers. There are moments when, whatever be the attitude of the body, the soul is on its knees.

—Vikar Hoga

what is a Deacon?

What is a deacon? A deacon is a lesson in human anatomy.

A mind with which to think out a problem.

An ear with which to listen attentively.

An eye with which to look out for people that need help.

A mouth with which to talk when someone needs to hear a friendly voice.

A heart with which to share love and understanding.

A shoulder when someone needs to cry.

Arms with which to hug someone and let them know you care.

Knees with which to kneel before God and pray.

Feet with which to walk among lost strangers and deliver the love of God.

All these things comprise what is commonly known as a deacon.

by Rev. Judy K. Davenport.

Dear Lord,
Thy will..
Nothing more,
Nothing less,
Nothing else.
(..unknown)



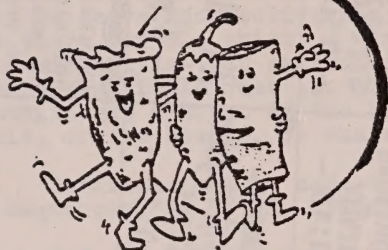
April

Sunday Services ... 10:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

1981

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
A. A. & Alanon, 7920 Claremont NE Integrity, 601 Montano NW Dignity, Phone 843-6579 for meeting.			Sing, Praise & Prayer! ~ 7:30 ~		EXCEL Week-end Tempe, Az. A.A. ~ 8: p.m.	EXCEL Week-end Tempe, Az.
EXCEL Week-end Tempe, Az.			Sing, Praise & Prayer! ~ 7:30 ~	Deacons- Student Ministers Class ~ 7:30 ~	A.A. - Alanon ~ 8: p.m. ~	
Palm Sunday Service		Dignity ~ 8: p.m. ~	Sing, Praise & Prayer! ~ 7:30 ~	Holy Thursday Service ~ 7:30 ~	Good Friday Service ~ 7:30 ~	
Easter Sunrise Service			Sing, Praise & Prayer! ~ 7:30 ~	Deacons- Student Minister Class ~ 7:30 ~	A.A. - Alanon ~ 8: p.m. ~	
			Integrity - 6:30 Sing, Praise & Prayer! ~ 7:30 ~		Should we all confess our sins to one another, we would all laugh at one another for our lack of originality....	

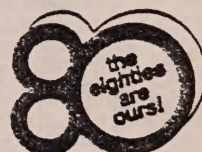
SIREN COFFEEHOUSE
PRESENTS!



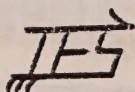
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*MCC Ventura
P.O. Box A-O
Ventura, CA 93001*

First Class





December 1981

Marge Shelton
Miss E. & Company

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
Holiday greetings

and best wishes for a happy new year.

Send me your home
address & phone number
cause I'd sure like to
talk to you, & when
the best time to call is

Love
Linda Derbyshire
Kim Hoerner

Marge & Shelton my phone is 805 525-1847 call before noon Cal Time

Photographed at Rolo Arabians,
St. Joseph, Missouri.

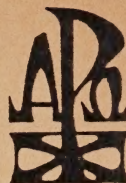


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Metropolitan Community Church

OF VENTURA



4949 Foothill Road
Ventura, California

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor

Mailing Address:

Box A-0

Ventura, Ca. 93001

805-485-9994

Sunday Services-6:30 pm

October 1, 1980

Dear Friends of MCC Ventura:

This has been an exciting month for us. We celebrated the first year of being pastor and people. It hardly seems possible that Rev. Marge came to us over a year ago as Worship Coordinator, but it has been that long. To celebrate we held a potluck in her honor and presented her with some lovely decorations for her home, a much-needed (and how!) wall file sorter, and various small tokens of affection. Most surprised of all was Rev. Marge when she arrived at the church to find a lovely brand new, hand-crafted altar made by Randy Davis (Deacon Candidate). It is lovely and we understand that Chan Ward is working on a mosaic frontal to complete it. Chan has been in Italy all month, and we have missed him.

If you haven't been by to visit for a while, you are missing some of the excitement of our growth. We are now having 24-30 present in services every Sunday (Do you remember when we reported 10-12 and were singing "Little is Much When God is in It?") We are truly blessed by new people, new programs, and a whole new spirit.

Some of us have been using a little book YOU-Prayer for Beginners and Others Who Have Forgotten How for personal devotions. I'd like to share a point from that book with you:

"Geese don't get the high-powered press coverage like sea gulls. They're seen as dull, ordinary birds which only attract notice twice a year during migration...

Like the Blue Angels, they fly wing tip to wing tip... you can hear the beat of their winds whistly through the air in unison...

And that's the secret of their strength... Together, cooperating as a flock, geese can fly a 71-percent longer range...The lead goose cuts a swath through the air resistance, which creates a helping uplift for the two birds behind him. In turn, their beating makes it easier

Lesbian Minister Seeks Understanding for Gays

By LINDA WILLIAMS

The Rev. Marjorie Ragona has been threatened with her life, was disowned by her parents as a teen-ager, and has experienced discrimination on the job.

She is a lesbian.
Ms. Ragona, who resides in Port Hueneme, is pastor of Metropolitan Community Church, the only church in Ventura County which ministers exclusively to the homosexual community.

The church, located at 4949 Foothill Road in Ventura, holds worship services at 6:30 p.m. Sundays. Its 50 members come from all walks of life; many are in their 20s and early 30s. The members have two things in common: they are Christian and they are homosexual.

Ms. Ragona, who became a "public gay" in 1968, said despite the many strides made in recent years for gay rights, homosexuals continue to face both subtle and overt harassment by the heterosexual community.

She said subtle discrimination takes place in the form of housing and employment prejudice, while more overt and violent discriminatory acts have manifested themselves in the form of bombings, attacks and deaths of homosexuals.

SHE SAID the church will hold a special Holocaust Memorial Service May 24 in honor of the hundreds of thousands of people who have been persecuted over the years simply because they were homosexuals.

Ms. Ragona said the special service is held annually to commemorate the 250,000 homosexuals who died in Hitler's death camps.

In addition, she said, the service will memorialize the deaths of American gay men and women who have been killed by heterosexuals because of their preference for members of the same sex. The pastor said that during the past 12 years, 10 gay churches have been burned by arsonists, and in the past six months there have been 10 murders of homosexuals living in Southern California.

"There's a lot of hatred toward gay people," Ms. Ragona said.

She estimated that 10 percent of the national population is gay, and said the percentage is even higher in Southern California which she describes as "one of the Meccas for gay people."

Ms. Ragona, who has been a practicing minister for the past five years (she was ordained

church, she explained that the religious sector of the community is "the biggest oppressor of homosexuals."

In recent years, she said, she has noticed a liberalizing of attitude toward homosexuals by some established religions. However, she said, some of the most liberal churches have ministers who take a "rabid" attitude when discussing homosexuality, while she knows of pastors of very conservative churches who are open-minded on the issue.

For many members of the Ventura church, religion has long played a central role in their lives. She said some have difficulty coming to terms with their homosexuality, knowing that the lifestyle is frowned upon by most religions.

Ms. Ragona, although now quite open about her homosexuality, spent many years coming to terms with her sexual preference.

She recalled as a teen-ager being attracted to members of the same sex. Her father didn't approve of his daughter's tendencies, and "threw" her out of the house when she was 16.

"HE WAS disgusted," she said.
She said the family is another great oppressor

'It's always hard for a gay person who is 'public' to earn a living in other than the gay sector.'

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"If you tell your mother, 'I'm gay', she says, 'I'd rather you were dead,'" the minister observed.

Ms. Ragona said parents should never feel they have failed because they have raised a homosexual.

"If you have raised a healthy, gay person, you haven't failed," she said. Instead, she said, if a parent rejects his/her child simply because the youth admits to being gay, then he has failed as a parent.

She said the family should not panic when they learn a relative is homosexual.

"It's not as bad as you think it is," she said. "Think about what the child is going through — fear, anxiety, and tremendous insecurity."

Parents seeking help and information in understanding their child's homosexuality, may write Parents and Friends of Gays, P.O. Box 24565, Los Angeles, Calif. 90024, or call (213) 472-8952.

She said it is also important for the youth to obtain counseling and join a group where he can meet with other gays.

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As a young adult, Ms. Ragona said she had little choice but to keep her sexual preference "in the closet."

She attended Harvard University and New York Institute for Theology, and received a master's degree in education from Tulane University in New Orleans. She is also a

people experience on the job after being "discovered."

"It's always hard for a gay person who is 'public' to earn a living in other than the gay sector," she said.

Ms. Ragona said she will not have to worry much longer about her employer finding out she is homosexual; she plans to leave the area next month to serve as a minister of a Metropolitan Community Church in Boston.

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"I'm a gay parent," the pastor said.

Last Father's Day, Ms. Ragona asked 18 members of the church to raise their hands if they were gay parents. Between them, the 18 members had 22 children.

She said her first marriage in 1955 was to a homosexual. She admitted that the marriage was a "smokescreen" to hide the fact she was gay. Also, the marriage enabled her to have children. Today, she said, lesbians will usually opt to be artificially inseminated if they wish to have children.

SHE HAD two children by her first husband, who died in 1960. She remarried a heterosexual in 1964 and stayed married long enough — one year — to deliver her third child, a girl.

When she met her second husband, she said she thought she was a "cured" homosexual, after spending seven years in counseling. However, she said, she soon realized that she was not a heterosexual, but still had great difficulty coming to terms with her homosexuality.

"I went through a spiritual upheaval," she recalled. "It was the worst time of my life."

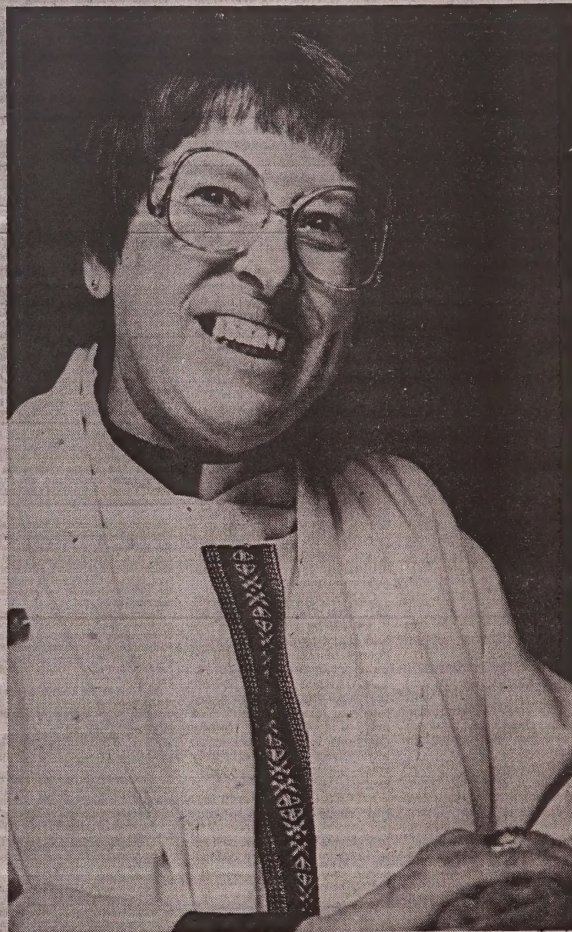
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'There's nothing intrinsically



Press-Courier photo by David Krushell

MINISTER DISCUSSES HOMOSEXUAL LIFESTYLE

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Life/style

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She attended Harvard University and New York Institute for Theology, and received a master's degree in education from Tulane University in New Orleans. She is also a registered nurse.

For 18 years she worked as a nurse, but found the profession little to her liking. During the mid-'60s she left nursing for a teaching career in an all-black school system in New Orleans.

However, when "the bottom fell out of teaching," she decided to seek another career. Since she didn't enjoy nursing, she chose to enter the ministry. Reflecting on her decision, the pastor said religion had always played a major role in her life, so it was only "a natural progression" to become ordained.

ACCORDING TO Ms. Ragona, her job as minister of the Metropolitan Community Church is not highly paid. To support herself, she works as a medical transcriber for an area medical facility. She said she keeps her homosexuality low-key at work, knowing the difficulties gay

people experience on the job after being "discovered."

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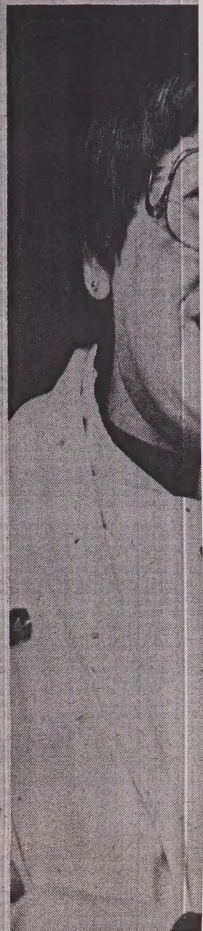
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(hatred of gay people) attack, according to the pastor. She said her daughter was beaten badly by the neighborhood children when they were living in Boston.

She disagrees with heterosexuals who maintain that homosexuals are unfit as parents. She also noted that it is inaccurate that children of gay parents will grow up to also lead homosexual lifestyles.

(See Harassment, Page 9)



MINISTER D
The Rev. Marjorie Ragona, Metropolitan Community Church, has been a "public gay" since 1968.

Li

8 The Press-Courier

Childhood Feats Now Obsolete

By ERMA BOMBECK

I finally figured out why I have never become a success in this world. Most of the things taught me in my childhood guaranteeing me a place in history have become obsolete.

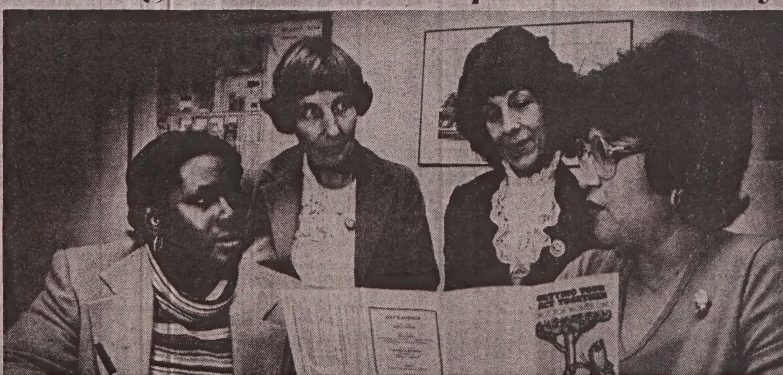
Take the sheep shank knot. When I was trying to move up from a Tenderfoot Girl Scout to first class status, I was led to believe the sheep shank knot was my ticket out of the ghetto and into the big time. Everyone could tie it except me. Every Tuesday at 3:15 I had a "knot tutor" who would take me aside and coach me. After six weeks of dedication, I finally succeeded in tying it.

Not once in all these years has anyone asked me to shorten anything with my sheep shank knot.

Diagramming a sentence is another piece of intellectual dead weight that I've carried around for years. I spent nearly two years making funny little diagonal lines and labeling parts of speech. I'll be honest with you, if I don't start diagramming a sentence pretty

'Getting Act Together' Workshops Set Saturday

Getting their act together are members of a committee involved in the planning of 40 self-help seminar workshops aptly titled 'Getting Your Act Together.' From left are Ms. Ellen Britt, counseling assistant for the Oxnard College Re-Entry program; Ms. Phyllis Bachman, business re-entry counselor; Ms. Jan Bottorff, representing Church Women United; and Ms. Pat Yost, Federation chairwoman for the Oxnard Junior Monday Club. The day-long event will begin at 8:30 a.m. Saturday at Oxnard College. Co-sponsoring the workshops are Oxnard College, Church Women United, National Council of Jewish Women, United Presbyterian Women, Oxnard Monday Club, the Oxnard and Ventura colleges re-entry programs and the Port Hueneme Naval Base.



Harassment Keeps Gays Hidden Accountants Vegetable-Growing Sa

(Continued from Page 8)

"It's not true," Ms. Ragona said. "It's not catching. Most of us are products of heterosexual marriages. Our children don't learn homosexuality from us."

She said none of her children are homosexual, adding that her two sons are "flagrantly heterosexual."

She said she knows of no gay parents who have raised homosexual children.

One of the reasons homosexuals are seen as unfit parents by some segments of the community is because "society has taught us gay people are sinful, sick, child molesters, and dangerous to society and family," according to Ms. Ragona.

SHE SAID these are just a few of the many myths about gay people.

The largest amount of child molestation occurs in the home by male relatives of female children," she said.

Ms. Ragona said the heterosexual public would be amazed at the number of well-respected gays in the community who have refrained from going "public." She said she knows of doctors and lawyers in the county who are homosexuals.

She acknowledged that many homosexuals prefer to keep their sexual identity a secret for fear of being harassed at home and on the job. (She has experienced both.)

She said that in today's society it is usually easier for two women to hide their homosexuality than two men.

"Lesbians are often very invisible," the minister said. However, with the recent publicity surrounding tennis star Billie Jean King's admission she engaged in a homosexual affair, homosexuality among women has been brought to the limelight.

Since her admission there have been some news reports claiming that homosexuality is rampant in women's sports. Ms. Ragona disagrees.

"WHENEVER WOMEN get competent they get accused of being lesbians," especially sports figures," she observed.

Mrs. King is being sued by her former live-in lover, Marilyn Barnett, who is claiming the tennis star owed her lifetime support and title to a Malibu beach house. The suit is based on the landmark Marvin vs. Marvin "palimony" case which held actor Lee Marvin responsible for making a property settlement with the woman with whom he had lived

in an unmarried relationship.

Contrary to some news accounts, Ms. Ragona said the Billie Jean King case is not the first palimony suit involving homosexuals. Last year, she said, two women who had Holy Union — the Metropolitan Community Church's ceremony which celebrates the commitment between two gay people — were involved in a palimony suit. Ms. Ragona said the party that brought suit was able to prove that she and her lover had a prenuptial agreement, and eventually won a judgment.

The pastor said the day may come when two gays can legally marry in the United States but observed that with the current conservative political climate, little progress will be made in the area of gay rights.

"IF WE survive the next four years we will be lucky," she said. "I despise the Republicans because it means oppressive times for gay people. They (Republicans) have a Neanderthal opinion of all minority groups."

Ms. Ragona said because there is such a negative attitude about homosexuals among much of the heterosexual population, many gays have difficulty accepting their homosexuality.

On Tuesday, she will lead a discussion on "So You Think You're a Lesbian" at Ventura College. Her talk will be part of the college's Women's Center Noontime Speakers' Program held from noon to 1 p.m. in Room CL2.

During the one-hour session, the pastor said she will help those attending deal with the emotions they experience while coming to terms with their homosexuality.

"I'll be helping them deal with their anxieties and fears," she said. "We'll be talking about being gay in today's world."

A question-and-answer session will conclude the discussion.

She said some gays, whether through the urging of family members or their own anxieties, seek counseling in the hope of becoming "straight." However, she said she advises against trying to cure a gay of his or her homosexuality.

"IT DOESN'T work," she reported. "The possible rate of change is less than three percent."

She added that she questions the validity of this percentage, saying "the chances of changing a homosexual are almost nil."

She said the heterosexual public is going to have to live with the fact that some individuals prefer homosexual over heterosexual lifestyles.

Ms. Ragona said Ventura County is lacking in facilities where gays can socialize. She said because "of the repressiveness of the sheriff's department" there is no openly gay bar in the county. However, she admitted that she would like to see gays opt for a more healthy atmosphere to meet one another.

On Saturday, at 8 p.m., a dance for gays will be held at the church. She hopes that similar kinds of events will be held in the future.

She added there is also a club for gays at Ventura College, recently founded by one of the church members.

Ms. Ragona said she has no regrets about going public about her homosexuality. She said "slowly but surely we (homosexuals) are coming out."

She said she is looking forward to the day when gay people can be "honest and open" about their homosexuality without worrying about repercussions in their business and private lives.

Ms. Ragona said she wishes heterosexuals would get to know gay people before categorizing or judging them.

"Most of them (gays) are interesting human beings and worth knowing," she said.

To Meet For Dinner

The American Society of Women Accountants is planning its annual public relations dinner for Thursday at the Colonial House, 711 N. Oxnard Blvd., Oxnard.

A panel comprised of Mary R. Gayle, Camarillo mayor and an attorney with a Century City firm; Barbara Power, owner of Power Development Co. in Ojai, and construction coordinator for Leach & Kehoe Architects in Oxnard; Beverly Saucedo, broker-owner of Independent Realtors in Camarillo, and Charlene York, assistant vice president and loan officer at Imperial Savings & Loan in Ventura, will discuss "Housing-How?"

Those wishing to attend the dinner should make reservations with Administrative Assistants in Oxnard.

Social hour is at 6, with dinner at 7. Continuing education credits will be available in agreement with the California State Board of Accountancy.

ASWA is open to both men and women.

Growing one's own vegetables is such a satisfying and productive part of gardening that no one should forego its delights no matter what size garden or balcony. The fact is, a well-planned home vegetable plot can grow all the vegetables a family can consume.

The trick is to choose vegetables that are highly productive in small spaces and arrange them so that every bit

of ground devoted to the vegetable plot is used to its fullest potential. Planting of early, mid-season and late varieties can stretch the harvest time to make the best use of the produce.

Another way to make good use of the land is to plant in blocks about four feet by four feet in raised beds with walkways between the plots. The raised beds improve drainage and make weeding and watering easy. The small size eliminates the need for irrigation rows and therefore more can be planted in the same space.

Plant taller crops like corn along the north side of the garden to prevent them from shading the plot. Don't forget to always plant corn in blocks, not single rows to insure



By CECILY BROWN STONE
Associated Press Food Editor
Flank Steak Potatoes
Broccoli Purée Salad

Chocolate Mousse
BROCCOLI PURÉE
For calorie-watchers:
1 large bunch broccoli
2 teaspoons butter
Freshly ground nutmeg
Cut broccoli into flowerettes and peel the stems, then slice them. Cook in boiling salted water until tender; drain, reserving liquid. Purée the broccoli in a food processor with 1-3rd cup cooking liquid, the butter, and nutmeg to taste, processing until light and fluffy.

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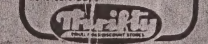
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC
PLANNING COMMISSION
OF VENTURA COUNTY
CODE AMENDMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that published by the PLANNING COMMISSION AN TURIA COUNTY to consider an amendment to the County Code.

1. The purpose of the proposed amendment is to allow mobile homes (built on or after January 1, 1975) in the A-E, A-E-P, R-2, R-3, and R-P-D zones, subject to the following conditions:
2. Amend requirements relative to the siting of mobile homes (built prior to January 1, 1975) to conform with the Planning Director approved Conditions of Use for mobile homes.
3. Delete the M-H-S (Mobile Home Subdivision) zone.
4. Amend the requirements for care and maintenance of mobile homes by combining these uses under one code zone; b) treating mobile homes as

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Business Grows for Ex-Teacher

By STEVE GRAHAM

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — In 1976 Judy Holste forsook teaching school and pushed her way into the hot-dog business with a single cart. Today she has 20 of the stainless-steel wiener wagons and a corner on the sidewalk fast-food market in downtown Portland.

"There I was in rain, sleet, snow and wind," she says. "Me, my pushcart and a big grin. I had five pairs of thermal underwear, one for each day of the week."

"Next spring I had cart No. 2 and No. 3 and in November 1978, No. 4 and 5 arrived."

As the business blossomed, so did the red canopies over the expanding fleet of pushcarts, proclaiming "Judy's Hot Dogs." With the inevitability of paperwork resulting from a burgeoning business, Judy retired from the streets to the office while keeping the big smile.

"We call her Miss Judy now," said one of her vendors as he inserted a flaming, spicy beef sausage into a bun.

That bit of information was enough to broaden the smile even more. "Somebody's trying to pull your leg," she said as she cuddled her

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other systems, but special for the religious imptions of Spencer nball, or Billy Graham, or Jerry Falwell — or of anyone else who uses religion as a claim to special dispensation.

possibly heavy traffic and other negative effects. Consistent with our recognition of the dangers of this road, we're doing these things. First, we've already entered our formal objection to the city's negative declaration proposal on the Adolfo-Calleguas Creek bridge, a link in the building of this road. Second, in an attempt to seek

Road this should have been the boundaries: Lewis Road on the west, city limits on the east, U.S. 101 on the south, and Las Posas-Upland Roads on the north."

Herman Engber
Chairman
Camarillo

Politicians No Friend

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The quotas adopted to force industry to hire blacks begets other inequities. The subsidy authorized to feed unwanted babies begets more unwanted babies. The low-rent and no-rent housing provided begets low-maintenance or no-maintenance. Then the crowning indignity — when government mandates crosstown school busing which ingrains children with the noxious notion that blacks without whites are somehow less.

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FINALLY, in between the new slaves and their new overlords come the new carpetbaggers — creating parasitic organizations making themselves rich in the name of helping the poor.

There will be no plantation politics under Reagan — no hush-puppies to divert discontent.

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What black Americans are going to be able to count on is a safety net under the genuinely needy, a gradual weaning of the lazy and all of the rights, privileges and rewards which the Republic can ensure for Americans willing to get off their knees and walk. And then climb!

Article Criticized

The prominently displayed article about the lesbian minister you published on May 11 was absolutely sickening. It could have been run one day earlier, on Mother's Day (with her holding an apple pie) and been in poorer taste.

I got the distinct impression that it was favorably slanted toward condoning and promoting homosexuality, which, I feel, is an unnatural lifestyle. By holding a discussion on "So You Think You're a Lesbian" at Ventura College, this minister hopes to

legitimize her sexual behavior and convert a few confused young people to her cause. God forbid!

She states that the day may come when two gays can legally marry. The next step could be a college (or high school?) class on how to make love, homosexual-style.

Thank God for the Republicans, whom she professes to despise for their opposition to the acceptance of homosexuality as "normal."

Name withheld
by request

Sound Off!

STATE LEGISLATURE

Sen. Omer L. Rains, D-Ventura, 18th Senatorial District. During legislative sessions: State Capitol Building, Room 5082, Sacramento, Calif. 95814. District office: 501 Poli St., Room 200, Ventura, Calif., 93001.

Assemblyman Charles R. Imbrecht, R-Ventura, 36th Assembly District. During legislative session: State Capitol Building, Sacramento, Calif. 95814. District office: 801 S. Victoria Ave., Room 202, Ventura, Calif. 93003.

CONGRESS

Rep. Robert J. Lagomarsino, R-Ventura, 19th Congressional District. During sessions: 2332 Rayburn House Office Build-

ing, Washington, D.C. 20515. District office: 5740 Ralston Ave., Suite 101, Ventura, Calif. 93003.

Rep. Barry M. Goldwater Jr., R-Woodland Hills, 20th Congressional District. During sessions: 2240 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. District office: 266 N. Mobil Ave., Camarillo, Calif. 93010.

Sen. Alan Cranston, D-Calif. During sessions: 229 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. In the state: 10960 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90024.

Sen. S. I. Hayakawa, R-Calif. During sessions: 6221 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.



5300 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 304, Los Angeles, California 90029 (213) 464-5100

August 25, 1980

Dear Friends of the Southwest District:

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

I am writing this letter to introduce myself - I am Rev. Jose Luis Mojica, Director of the U.F.M.C.C. Hispanic Americas Ministry and former pastor of MCC Hispana in New York City.

This past year I moved to Los Angeles, and then toured Central and South America to make contact with our gay brothers and lesbian sisters in Puerto Rico, Brazil, Argentina and Costa Rica who are so hungry to hear the good news of the gospel. That trip opened my eyes to the sufferings, needs and dreams of so many people, gay and non-gay. I went to those countries with a burden, and returned with a greater burden.

Would you do me a favor? Consider asking me to come to your church to preach a sermon entitled "The Last Message," about our urgent need to preach the gospel to every creature. I would be happy to preach Sunday morning or evening, or at a mid-week service. I am not asking for a love offering for myself or for the Hispanic Americas District. I only desire the opportunity to be able to share with my fellow Christians in this District as a colleague and friend. I would be happy also to spend time after the service to answer questions and share with individuals about the exciting work of the Hispanic Americas District. Since I do not have a car, in some cases I will need help with transportation.

For my Fellowship references, please contact Rev. Bob Arthur, Rev. Elder Troy Perry or Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson. Rev. Wilson works with me on the Church Extension Board of the Hispanic Americas. Also, I have preached at MCC-Pomona and MCC-Los Angeles, and you may contact them for a reference.

If you are interested in inviting me to your church to preach, please write to me c/o Hispanic Americas Ministry, 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 304, Los Angeles, CA. 90029; or call me at home after 6:00 P.M. at 213-668-0979.

And, also, please remember to pray for the work of World Church Extension!

Your Brother in Christ,
Rev. Jose L. Mojica
Rev. Jose L. Mojica

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COMMUNITY NOTES:

Southern California Women for Understanding (SCWU) is an organization of over 500 women who seek through education to enhance the lesbian experience. SCWU's program includes special interest meetings, raps, socials and special events. The Ventura group invites interested Lesbians to attend an Orientation meeting, Friday, October 24th at 7:30 p.m. in Ventura. Please call one of these numbers for information: Paula: 648-2654, Keri: 659-2639, or Diane 497-7201.

BOARDER WANTED: Preferably woman, for Ventura private home. Call Keri 213-753-7492, weekdays or 659-2639 weekends.

NORTON SOUND UPDATE:

Charges were dropped against all but two of the women involved in the Norton Sound investigation. The "Love Boat" will be home next month, and we understand will be in port during our dance! Hopefully, the Navy will begin to understand that one's sexual orientation doesn't make a bit of difference in how you do your job (or how you love your country!).

ELECTION TIME IS COMING:

Please remember that Chuck Imbrecht has come out forcefully AGAINST gay rights. Our November newsletter should carry some statements by local politicians and challengers regarding their positions on gay rights. Look for it.

Know any gay nurses? A local hospital is willing to pay \$150.00 for anyone who can steer a nurse looking for work to them. If MCC can find such nurses we could make \$150, or \$300 or \$450, just for finding employable R.N.'s. (The hospital would not, of course, know that you were gay.) Call MCC if you are interested.

LOOK FOR OUR ART SHOW ANNOUNCEMENT COMING TO YOU LATER THIS MONTH. In November Collier Art will be putting on a wonderful art show sponsored by MCC at the Ventura church location. We'll be telling you more about it in a special mailing. This would be a wonderful place to buy those special Christmas presents for those special people in your life. Put a little art in your Christmas! (And help fill MCC's stocking at the same time!)

HELPLINE MEETING. Meeting for the formation of the Ventura County Helpline will be held Saturday, October 4th, 4:00 p.m. at #335, 401 West Vineyard Avenue, Oxnard.

DANCE: AT THIS MAILING WE DO NOT KNOW THE DATE FOR THE DANCE. we will know later this week, but did not want to hold the newsletter and not send you other information. you will receive notification in plenty of time. it will be either october 25th or November 1. the theme: Hallowe'en (which, as you must know, is the national holiday of Gay people!) Come as you always wanted to be!

on the birds behind them, much like the drag of a race car sucked in behind the lead car...

Each bird takes his turn at being the leader. The tired ones fan out to the edges of the V for a breather, and the rested ones surge toward the point of the V to drive the flock onward...

If a goose become too exhausted or ill and has to drop out of the flock, it is never abandoned. A stronger member of the flock will follow the failing, weak one to a resting place and wait until it's well enough to fly again.

Mark Link, the author, then reminds us that "All of us have been baptized into one body." (I. Cor. 12:13). Cooperation makes all of our lives easier, more comfortable, and makes it possible for all of us to accomplish more, particularly as gay people, who are often alone, but who need not be, if we work together. Keeping that idea in mind, we are planning a meeting of all the gay organizations in this area, MCC, New Directions, SCWU and all private individuals who are interested in attending, to discuss a Gay Helpline for Ventura County. The meeting will be October 4th at 4:00 p.m. (Saturday afternoon) at Apt. 335, 401 West Vineyard Avenue, Oxnard. All who are interested in working on groundrules, staffing, financing, and the multitude of needs occasioned by beginning a Helpline are invited to attend. We NEED your help and want your input.

Other programs you might be interested in: We have a new group of Raps starting on October 5th at 8:30 at 4949 Foothill Road (The Unitarian Church). The first topic is "Homosexual, Bisexual or What?" (See the flyer attached.) There is cheese and wine, coffee and cake before and after the rap, and good conversation with interesting people.

Saturday evening, October 4th, MCC Ventura's first family group begins. Family groups are support groups of 8-10 people (not all church members) who meet in private homes for personal growth, some spiritual study, and to meet emotional needs of people -- just as your family would if they were nearby. Please call us if you would like to be part of a family group. We have two information, one to meet in Ventura, and another possibly in Carpinteria or Oxnard, depending on where people are mainly located.

We are having another dance! Our first (for the Gay Cuban Refugees) was a success and we raised \$200.00 for the fund. This time we are splitting the proceeds between The Norton Sound 8 and the Santa Barbara Gay Resources Center, who have been very supportive of MCC Ventura, and who are in need of the funds. Please see the flyer attached for information about time and date.

This month celebrates the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches 12th anniversary. We will be celebrating that anniversary at the church on October 12th. Come, bring a friend and share with us the Good News that God is love, and joy and peace; and that God loves everyone equally -- gay and straight -- and wants our love in return. We begin our service at 6:30 and will be praising God and remembering the past and looking toward the present.

Thank you all for a wonderful year.

Rev. Marge

Ventura

WELCOME TO
**CHAPEL
BY THE
SEA**



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CHAPEL BY THE SEA
4400 Saviers Road
Oxnard, California 93033
488-0819

M O R N I N G W O R S H I P
March 22, 1981

PASTOR:

Steve Robbins

Special guests from Indonesia will be out our evening service tonight for Missions Sunday. Let's make them feel welcomed!!

Wanna' know how our two missionary couples are doing????
Read their newsletter on the missions bulletin board!!

SPECIAL LOVE AND THANKS TO Dusty Bishop and Mary Batt and all those who worked so hard to make the banquet such a success!!! God bless you all!!! P.S. A special thanks to Gary Freeman and his waiters!!

HOUSING NEEDED FOR FESTIVAL OF PRAISE: Still need to house 24 people for one night, April 18th. If you have any room, please sign up on the bulletin board.

FISHERMAN CONCERTS presents Steve Urspringer Band and guest, Chris Mennig in concert March 28, 7 pm. Continue praying for this evangelistic concert. Bring your unsaved family and friends.

COMMUNITY MEAL prepared by youth from our Young & Noble group under the direction of Carol Sampson. Menu:
SURPRIZE. Adults: \$2.00; Kids: \$1.00. Meal is 3/25, 6 pm.

BIBLE STUDY every Wednesday at 7:00 pm. Nursery provided.

Pictures of members will be taken today between the first and second service on the patio. See Ken Cooper.

SCHEDULE OF THE WEEK

Sunday, 3/22	8:00 am	Leadership Prayer #1
	8:30 am	Teachers Prayer
	9:00 am	First Service
		Nursery ages 1-2
	9:30 am	Children ages 3-high school dismissed for Sunday School
	10:30 am	Leadership Prayer #2
	10:30 am	Fellowship
	11:00 am	Second Service
		Nursery ages 0 - 5
	11:30 am	Children dismissed for Children's Church (grades K-8)
	6:00 pm	Missions Sunday Evening Service
Monday, 3/23	7:00 pm	Teacher Training Seminar
Tuesday, 3/24	7:00 pm	High School Youth Meeting
Wednesday, 3/25	6:00 pm	Community Meal
	7:00 pm	Bible Study - nursery ages 1-5
	8:30 pm	Prayer for revival
Thursday, 3/26	7:30 pm	Music Ministry Meeting

UPCOMING EVENTS: Festival of Praise, April 18th; Spurrllows (of Festival of Praise) will minister in song during our two morning services of April 19th.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE: April 19th, 6 am. More info to follow.

"Who shall separate us from the love of God? For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:35a, 37-39)

CHAPEL-BY-THE-SEA

Chapel-By-The-Sea has been formed as a God-motivated inspirational center under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Our supreme desire is to know Christ and to be conformed into His image by the dynamic power of the Holy Spirit. We are not a denominational church, nor are we opposed to denominations as such, only their over-emphasis of the doctrinal differences that have led to the division of the Body of Christ.

We believe that the only true basis of Christian fellowship is His love (Agape), which is greater than any differences we possess and without which we have no right to claim ourselves Christians.

WE BELIEVE Worship of God should be Spiritual.

Therefore: We remain flexible and yield to the leading of the Holy Spirit to direct our worship.

WE BELIEVE Worship of God should be inspirational.

Therefore: We give a great place to music in our worship.

WE BELIEVE Worship of God should be intelligent.

Therefore: Our services are designed with emphasis upon teaching the Word of God that He might instruct us how He would be worshipped.

WE BELIEVE:Worship of God is Fruitful.

Therefore: We look for His love in our lives as the supreme manifestation that we have truly been worshipping Him.

VENTURA

Dear Marge, Sheila and Missy,

How are all of you doing? Did the holidays treat you well? I was a little concerned about Santa Claus making the long haul from the North to the South Pole, but he didn't let me down. Thank you very much for the treats and the book. The goodies were delicious and were enjoyed by all. I'm about $\frac{1}{2}$ way through the book, and I'm enjoying it and learning from it. Thank you!

How are things at the church going?

Any dances planned for March? I sure hope so, cause I'm ready to put on my dancing shoes! Is life in general treating you well? Have you managed to make your life a bit less hectic? It's going to be great seeing and talking to all of you.

I think I told you about my being at Williams Field with all those 30 foolish men. Finally after 6 weeks, I'm able to return to some sort of civilization again. Otherwise

known as McMurdo Station. Now I've been
put into some training that is a rare
opportunity for weather people like myself.
I'm sending up weather balloons twice a day,
tracking them and analyzing the data they
transmit. Very challenging and interesting work.
It's great to be learning again. I may be
getting an even better opportunity this summer.
I'm scheduled to attend a six-week school
on these Upper Air balloons in Illinois. I've
had a very good season, and everyone has
been really good to me. I'm sure looking
forward to getting back to California, but in
no way am I dreading next season. I feel
like I've really learned and am still learning
a lot down here. Things about other people, myself,
and all sorts of good things like that.

There's an airplane leaving for New Zealand in
the morning and I'd sure like to get this letter
on it. All of you take care, let the people of
the church know I'm thinking of them.

Jove,
Karla

Sunday June 7, 1981 -
VENTURA

My Dearest Marjorie Morningstar: —

This is not a hate letter, and no bomb in the box!! - But a love letter, for all you have done for me and so many at M.C.C. Ventura. It is full of Gods love for you, Shelia, and your families as you go on your way to a new and exciting life on the east coast. —

I boldly call you Morningstar, as that is what you have been to me these past many months. My Morningstar, Eveningstar a real solis in a very dark night, in this time of my life. But your hugs, kisses and prayers have helped me to dawn each new day, bright, with the sunshine that you have been to all of us.

I know your position here as our Pastor has been "just a job". But with Gods help, somehow you have been able to make so special for so many —

So Mr. Morningstar, my dear
fairy princess, until we can be together
again, and with one of your kind and
gentle kisses, I may be able to turn
into a handsome fairy prince !! -
I must remain one of your humble
little fagot frogs - Still yearning to
be set free -

My love to you and yours

Wally



METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF VENTURA

4949 Foothill Road
Sunday Worship 3:30 PM
805-653-5291

Rev. Frank W. Scott
P.O. Box A-O
Ventura, CA. 93002

OCTOBER, 1982

Pastor's Corner

An old Chinese parable tells of an elderly man who died and was taken by his guardian angel first down to Hell. There he found people seated around long banqueting tables laden with all kinds of delicious food. Each person had a pair of chopsticks ten feet long. All the people at the tables were struggling unsuccessfully to reach the wonderful banquet but could not with their unwieldy eating utensils. Everyone was frustrated and angry.

Then the guardian angel took his elderly charge up to Heaven and told him this was to be his eternal home. Here he found the long banqueting tables laden with delicious food and all the people holding ten feet long chopsticks. Only here, everyone was happy and sharing the banquet together, each feeding the person across the table with the utensils God had lovingly provided.

What a beautiful picture of people being church! Everyone doing his or her part, sharing in feeding each other from God's bounty.

During the past few weeks we have shared the excitement of our church being revitalized after the "summer slump." Members and friends have been signing up for the Teams which are being organized to plan social activities, do fund-raising, etc. The choir has reorganized and expanded. Our attendance in worship has increased by a third - 43 and 44 on the first two Sundays in October. And, really exciting, a lay-led Bible study group has started meeting each week, led by those who attended the September Excel weekend.

All this is the result of people sharing and working together and accepting the challenge of "Each One Reach One." When each member or friend accepts the responsibility to reach out to friends and acquaintances on behalf of the church, sharing the Good News of God's love, things start happening. As we continue to share and to reach out, the possibilities for the growth of our church are endless.

Exciting things are happening at MCC Ventura! Come and see for yourself! Come and share the banquet of love!

Pastor Frank

PASTORAL STAFF:

Pastor - Rev. Frank Scott.....653-5291
Office Hours - Tuesday and Thursday, 1 P.M. - 4 P.M.
Wednesday and Friday, 9 A.M. - Noon
Evening hours by appointment

Deacons - Linda Derbyshire
Bob Ray

Church Calendar

Sunday Evenings - 5:30 P.M. Choir Rehearsal
6:30 P.M. Worship
8:00 P.M. Fellowship

Monday Evenings - 8:00 P.M. Lay-led Bible Study. Call 485-9700 for info.

Sunday, October 17 - Baked Goods Auction following the Worship Service.

Saturday, October 23 - HALLOWEEN MASQUERADE DANCE at church. 8 P.M.-12 P.M.
Donation - \$4.00 at the door.

Sunday, October 31 - Rap Session following the Worship Service. Topic to be announced.

Friday, November 3 - Saturday, November 4 - District Conference at MCC
Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Sunday, November 5 - Lay Worship Service

Sunday, November 10 - Board of Directors meeting following the Worship Service.

GOD, GAYS AND THE GOSPEL

GOD, GAYS AND THE GOSPEL

A special project is nearing completion - the first television special about Metropolitan Community Church entitled, God, Gays and the Gospel! This is the culmination of over a year of planning and of taping at various locations. The program is a semi-documentary about the ministry of UFMCC and should be ready for telecast in the Spring, 1983.

Rev. Troy Perry is inviting everyone who would like to participate to attend the final taping session, a worship service at MCC Los Angeles at 3 P.M. on Saturday, October 23. A special section of seats will be set aside for those who do not mind being photographed. Everyone else will be seen only from a distance.

This is our opportunity to take part in a history-making event. Some transportation and car pools will be available from MCC Ventura. Contact the Pastor for further information.

Board Notes

The Board of Directors of MCC Ventura held their monthly meeting on Sunday, October 10. It was noted that our current membership is 39 (33 active, 6 inactive) and that our September offerings totaled \$1,253.00, slightly over our \$300 a week budget requirement. The high attendance for the month was 44 on September 19, our 10th Anniversary celebration. Average attendance was 30.

Among the items of business discussed were the following:

- 1) The budget was renewed for the Fourth Quarter, 1982.
- 2) Participation in the Ventura Street Fair, Dec. 5, was approved.
- 3) The Annual Business Meeting was set for Dec. 19, following worship. Two members will be elected to the Board of Directors and the 1983 Budget will be presented for approval at that time.
- 4) Bob Ray reported on the possibility of advertising in several Ventura County newspapers in 1983.
- 5) Help is being sought to assist reading the Gospel in Spanish and translating portions of the Communion liturgy.
- 6) The newly formed teams (committees) were discussed.

Deacon's Beacon

This month, as I look out to sea, I see some of our members and friends in the water drifting away from the ship. Some of them are managing to tread water, but I see some who are sinking pretty fast. I don't know if these folks have fallen from the ship or have jumped overboard, but it's time they get back on the ship before they drown in that big empty sea. For those who are treading water fairly well, they only need to turn around and swim back to the ship where they will find warmth and comfort. But for those who are sinking, they need a life-line, and should grab for one soon before they are gone forever.

Are you one of these people I see in the water? If so, there is no reason for it at all. If you are one who is treading water, make that turn, exert some effort and at least try to get back on the ship. There are ladders on all sides, and if you are strong enough to swim, you can climb that ladder to comfort and safety.

If you are one of those who is sinking and needs a life-line, have you looked for that life-line? It's there. All you have to do is look for it. If you still can't see one, or if you don't have the strength to swim back on your own, put out a call for help so we can throw you a life-line and pull you back to safety.

Our ship sits high in the water, and sails a direct course. We have a good Captain at the helm, two new officers at his side, and a crew of assistants to assure everyone a smooth and comfortable cruise while aboard. We have lots of room and no one will be thrown overboard or turned away. Our ship is called "MCC VENTURA." Its' destination is that Eternal Life which is promised by our Admiral, Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

HALLOWEEN MASQUERADE DANCE

PLACE: 4949 Foothill Rd., Ventura

TIME: 8:00 P.M. - 12 Midnight

DONATION: \$4.00

DOOR PRIZES

WINE AND BEER

BRING A FRIEND!

DRIFTING
by Dell T.

Night is upon me.
I am drifting -
My sails, they are empty.
The water is deep, it is cold
and it is gray.

There is no motion,
Yet I have great emotion
For suddenly, with no wind I am moving
What is my way?

Off in the distance I can see
Only more distance.
As I grow nearer
I am further away.

Why am I moving?
Where am I going?
With no rudder
There'll be no sailing away.

As I'm rocked gently
I await, Lord,
For the light that is
The dawning of a new day.

EACH ONE REACH ONE

WHY SODOM ?

-submitted by BOB W.-

The first book of the Bible, from the creation to Joseph's experiences in Egypt, probably has contributed more to our history of civilization than any other volume. One of the best known incidents related in this book is that of the destruction of Sodom (Genesis 19:12-26), a city at the southern end of the Dead Sea. The ruins of this city, along with four others, are now beneath the slowly rising waters of the sea, but were visible as late as the first century A.D. Just before the destruction of Sodom, two angels in the form of men visit Lot (Gen. 19:1 cf). We are told earlier that God had decided to destroy the city because "their sin is very grave" (Gen. 18:20 New English Bible). Late that evening, a large number of men, both young and old, came to Lot's house with the avowed purpose of having sex with the two visitors. Lot tries to dissuade them, and the usual interpretation of this incident concludes that God destroyed the city because homosexuality was its very grave sin.

However, there are some problems with this conclusion. First, God already decided to destroy the city, so this decision could not have been a result of the attempted rape of the angels. Second, if the homosexual attitude of some of the inhabitants was the "utter evil" (Gen. 18:20 Living Bible), then why was the suggested ravishing of Lot's daughters (Gen. 19:6-8) acceptable? Substituting one excess for another does not seem to be the answer. The most compelling argument against this popular interpretation is to be found in Ezekiel 16: 49-59. This text, not usually referenced in most commentaries or concordances, states that Sodom's sins were "pride and laziness and too much food, while poor and needy suffered outside her door. She insolently worshipped many idols as I watched" (Living Bible). No mention of sexual deviation here.

The Old Testament tells us that God wants us to love God with all our being. God's begotten One, Jesus tells us to love others. If Sodom had followed these commands, they would not have invoked God's ire. Likewise, irrespective of our sexual persuasion, these are the commandments for today's Christians to also follow.

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NEW CATHOLIC CODE MAY INCLUDE PRO-WOMEN STANCE

-Vatican City- Pope John Paul II is expected to issue the first revision of the Catholic Church's code of canon law. The initial reports say the revision will contain some pro-feminist clauses. Suggested points are to permit women to assist priests in distributing communion in mass and permit girls to serve in a function equivalent to that of altar boys. The last time the code was revised was in 1917.

POPE CANONIZES GAY (?) MAN

-Vatican City- Pope John Paul II last week canonized Maksymilian Kolbe, a Polish Franciscan martyr who gave his life in the Nazi death camp of Auschwitz to save a fellow prisoner. Kolbe volunteered to take the place of another prisoner, Franciszek Gajowniczek, when 10 Polish prisoners were sentenced to be starved to death after a camp upheaval. A painting of the martyr in Czestochowa, Poland, shows Kolbe with a pink triangle, the symbol of homosexuals in the Nazi camps, on his right sleeve. A dispute has emerged over whether Kolbe was, indeed, homosexual, or whether he simply wished to share the stigma of the ultimate outcasts of the Nazi camps.

ORGANIZATION FOR GAY ADVENTISTS FORMED

-San Francisco- The latest religious denomination to form a gay and lesbian caucus is the Seventh-Day Adventists. Orion Fellowship Alliance was incorporated under the laws of California recently to "provide religious and social services to lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transsexuals of Seventh-Day Adventists backgrounds."

AND

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MORAL MAJORITY BACK ON WARPATH

-WASHINGTON- Moral Majority has once again declared war on homosexuality, urging recipients of a mass mailing to send in their money to stop America from "losing the war". In a form letter signed by Jerry Falwell, Moral Majority lists a number of things which are "happening" in the USA, including the fact that legislation which would give "minority status" to gay men and lesbians has been introduced in Congress, the fact that gays were allowed to lay a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the fact that "efforts are being made to permit known, practicing homosexuals, who are flaunting their lifestyles, to teach in public schools," and the fact "that ordained homosexuals are preaching in our church pulpits and interpreting the Word to thousands of Americans". The letter also includes a questionnaire which is to be filled out and sent back to Moral Majority for presentation to Congress. Closing the letter is a handwritten plea: "Let's stop the homosexuals once and for all! Jerry."

-Los Angeles- Virginia Ramey Mollenkott, Ph.D., Co-author of "Is the Homosexual My Neighbor," and author of "Women, Men and the Bible," will be the Featured Speaker for UFMCC General Conference XI and will facilitate a seminar on "Women, Men and the Bible". General Conference XI will be in Toronto, Canada, July 11-17, 1989. Registration forms will be mailed from MCC Fellowship Offices to all MCC Churches by Nov. 15th. Early registration, both for the Conference and for rooms, is being encouraged. Check your local MCC CHURCH for further info and for forms.

YOU ARE INVITED TO A BENEFIT COCKTAIL PARTY
FOR THE CAPITAL 20 DEFENSE FUND

featuring

HARRY BRITT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1982 7:30 P.M.
34 Chestnut Road, Delmar, New York

SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTION: \$25 per person
(\$10 students/limited income)

also
Speaking On

URBAN POLITICS IN THE 80's

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1982 4:00 P.M.
SUNYA CAMPUS CENTER BALLROOM
1400 WASHINGTON AVENUE, ALBANY, NEW YORK

HARRY BRITT * OPENLY GAY SUPERVISOR, CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO
- SUCCESSOR TO THE LATE HARVEY MILK
- VICE-CHAIR OF NATIONAL BOARD, DEMOCRATIC
SOCIALISTS OF AMERICA

Voted Gay and Women's rights activist, was appointed in 1979 to replace the late Harvey Milk as San Francisco City Supervisor following Milk's assassination. He is touring the country in his role as Vice-Chairman of the National Board of Democratic Socialists of America.

Harry's insight and perspective on the role of the Lesbian and Gay community in restructuring our cities in the 80's is of great value. We urge you to attend.

r.s.v.p. Rich Redlo (518) 482-3558
Gary Pavlic (518) 785-0065

N.E.D. Conf. Reports

(CONTINUES)

Ministering to Gay Non-Parents

-Mary Wolfe-

This workshop was attended by apx. 22 people. Rev. Belle and myself developed and led the group. Lively discussions began early and remained throughout the time allowed. Some of the issues raised were: people who want to be parents- but can't, people who are happy not being parents, fears centering around children; i.e. stereotype child molesting, how we accept parents with children; i.e. lovers with children, children disturbing worship. How can we parent without having our own children, became a lengthy discussion with many alternatives. 1. Help parents with their children. 2. Help gay children within social services agencies, by being foster or adoptive parents. 3. By showing a willingness to be a parent - figure for others/gays/lesbians, regardless of age or sex, i.e. Big Brothers, Big Sisters.

* * * * *

WORKSHOP II

THE CHILD WITHIN US - Pat Carls

Led by Rev. Dick Dannenfeltzer, Episcopal priest and licensed sex therapist, this workshop examined what makes us "adults" and how to find and get to know the child-like qualities that we as adults always have inside us. The idea put forth that we stress to ourselves, the standards of adulthood in our lives and behaviors, while ignoring the needs of our inner child. This was reinforced by a slide show featuring the giving of our adult sexual attributes by God; the catch was that we could use neither use them, nor enjoy them thus, "somehow" (?) making us "adults".

* * * * *

N.E.O. CONF. REPORTS

(CONTINUES)

FFO & GSS (Faith, Fellowship & Order - Government Structure and Systems)

Met in combine workshop. They presented their reports of last mtgs and presented an initial draft of By-Laws revisions - covering Article V (Government, Organization and Officers) and Article VI (Approval of Church Bodies) of UFMCC By-Laws. These revisions (in their final form) will be presented by GSS at General Conference 83'. The revisions include provisions for restructuring the Board of Elders to create "District Elders", strengthening districts, clarifying the role of Layiety, increase options for local churches and a new method of approving local church bodies.

* * * * *
CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP - Mary Wolfe

The children and adults at this workshop took a walking tour of Providence. Rev. Dr. Thomas Ramsbey facilitator of the group, discussed with the children many issues; having lesbian/gay parents, peer pressure, "not being understood", jealousies, rivalries and exceptional closeness between siblings and friends. Another important issue made was children ministering to other children.

* * * * *
THE DEACON'S MEETING - Mary Wolfe

Was poorly attended, because of scheduling conflicts. Four people were able to met during dinner. We are trying to compile a list of deacon's and deacon's candiates in order to encourage greater future involvement. A deacon's retreat was scheduled for Jan., anyone interested please contact me, at church address for more details.

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N.E.D. CONF. Reports

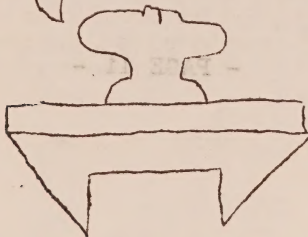
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LAY CONCERNS MEETING - Charles W. Green

Steve Carson, who has been the Lay Representative for the Northeast District, chaired the meeting. A motion to recommend to the business meeting, that there be held one District Conference that is entirely led and organized by the Layiety was defeated. Concern was expressed around the fact that the homily at the lay service was given by a student clergy person. A motion that the business meeting at District Conf., starting with 83' conference, adopt the voting pattern of General Conference that is, that all votes taken at business meetings must pass a majority of both clergy and local lay representatives. This motion passed. The next motion suggested that one District Conf. a year be substituted by a district retreat, so that time can be devoted less to business and more to fellowship. This motion also passed. The final business of the meeting was devoted to the election of a new District Lay Representative, since Steve Carson had resigned due to his new status as student clergy. By secret ballot, Bob Bruso of MCC Portland, was elected. The meeting closed with prayer.

* * * * *

WHEN I SPOKE LAST SUNDAY
ABOUT MINISTRY TO SINGLES, I
WASN'T REFERRING TO WHAT
YOU PUT IN THE OFFERING
PLATE!!!



N.E.D. CONF. REPORTS

(CONTINUES)

BUSINESS MEETING -Rev. Beele

Proposed agenda submitted and approved. Reports from Secretary, Treasurer, Co-District Coordinator, Asst. District Coordinator were read and approved. Lay Concerns Report (see article), no Race Relations Report was available due to Rev. Mc Coy presents at Third World Conf. in Washington. FFO, determined not to propose By-Laws changes at the up coming General Conf., but would instead embark upon a 4 year data gathering study. GSS, presented By-Laws revisions (see article). An election for Co-District Coordinator followed. Carol Dees was elected as acting Co-District Coordinator. A motion was presented and approved to eliminate the Feb. Conf., due to economic & weather conditions in the N.E.D. The spring N.E.D. Conf.; April 29-31, will be held in Albany, N.Y. It's theme Faith with workshops drawn from FFO - "spirituality & sexuality". A motion was made and passed that funding for Co-District Coordinators and Asst., housing and transportation while on district business be paid for by the district. Julie Benavides & Rev. Pellegrino were elected as conveners for a district by-laws committee. New York City on Jan. 15th, invited all to a workshop on church music. A motion was made and passed to adopt at District level the voting procedures of General Conf., i.e. voting by two houses, lay and clergy. The meeting was adjourned in honor of Rev.'s Shelly Hamilton & Steve Pieters

* * * * *

CHURCH RECORDS DEPT

-Belle Pellegrino-
Advent begins the new Christian year. It should have far more significance in our lives than mere changing of numbers on a calendar. It is a time of renewed effort, a starting over; a rebirth for us. A time to cleanse our hearts and minds of any leftovers from yesterday. It is especially important at this time of year, that we take a good hard look at ourselves. Are we in the proper state of mind for the coming of that special visitor? Have we emptied out the trash, not the hefty bags in the back hall, but the junk that has been collecting in our hearts and minds! During the course of a year, we can accumulate an awful lot of garbage. It's easy to sweep the floor of our house. Less easy to sweep the floor of our minds and hearts. How many of us have someone we want to get even with for some offense done to us in the past? How easy to forget the passage which tells us to turn the other cheek. Everything that happens in our lives may not be pleasant, may not be the way we think it should be, but when all is said and done, we are only preparing for the next task that will greet us around the bend. Somethings that are terrible in our lives may be a part of the toughening process for a tomorrow to come.

And so, let us now, during this season of Peace- reach out, not only to our loved ones, our friends BUT to those with whom we have had difficulties during the past year, or even longer.

May we truly begin the Christian year in the spirit of the Living God - in the peace and joy of Jesus Christ!!!!

EDITOR'S NOTE

NEWS/and NEWS - were copied in part or in entirety from Oct. & Nov. issues of "Gaylife", Chicago, IL.

RED CONF Reports

(NORTHEAST DISTRICT CONFERENCE REPORTS
PROVIDENCE, R.I., Oct. 29-31, 1982)

- Board of Home Missions- Officially closed MCC Brooklyn & Portland.
Officially recognized Trinity MCC (in New York City) & Morning Star MCC (Worcester, Mass.)
- Arrangements were made for Carol Dees and Rev. Pellegrin to visit Hanover, N.H., to explore the feasibility of a group in that area.
 - Rev. Steve Pieters announced his resignation as Co-District Coordinator and advise as a result of it an election would be in order.

* * * * *
WORKSHOPS - (Conference theme: "All God's Children")

WORKSHOP I

Ministering to Children - Pat Carls

Led by Irene Lefevre, this workshop discussed area of concerns toward not only those lesbians and gay men who have children, but toward children in the community at large; particularly, those children who are runaways, "throwaways", and who are the objects of abuse. We talked about developing trust and showing care and loving concern for many children who are not used to it. Ways of bringing God and religious concepts into the home for our children, as well as encouraging them to participate in prayer and Christian learning were discussed at length.

Ministering to Gay Parents

YOU MISSED IT * WE MISSED IT!!!

JUST ONE OF THOSE THINGS YOU HAD TO BE THERE!

BOOK RECOMMENDATION

1. Homosexuality and the Conservative Christian
by Rev. L. Robert Arthur
2. *Christianity, Social Tolerance, and Homosexuality
by John Boswell
3. Womanspirit Rising: A Feminist Reader in Religion
by Carol P. Christ & Judith Plaskow
4. *Jonathan loved David; Homosexuality in Biblical Times
by Tom Horner
5. *The Church and the Homosexual
by John Mc Neil
6. The Lord is my Shepherd and He Knows I'm Gay
by Rev. Troy Perry
7. Our God, Too
by Swicegood
8. Loving Someone Gay 9. Living Gay
by Don Clark
10. Christian Sexuality 11. Homosexuals and The Bible
12. Gay Lifestyles: A Christian Interpretation of Homosexuality and the Homosexual - (all by Norman Pittenger).
- Mary Daly Books; 13. Beyond God the Father, 14. The Church and The Second Sex, 15. Gyn/Ecology
16. Sappho was a Right On Woman
by Sidney Abbott & Barbara Love
17. I'm OK, You're OK
by Thomas A. Harris MD
- *** John Powell S.J. Books and Dennis & Matthew Linn Books

WHO MAKES THE CHURCH A SU ESS???

-The Voice, MCC Sarasota, Fla.

Xvxn though this typxwritx is an old modxl, it works quitx wll, xxcept for only onx of thx kxys. I wishxd many timxs that it workxd pxxfctly. It is trux that thxrx arx forty-six kxys that function wll xnowh, but just onx kxy not working makxs thx diffxrxcx. Somxtimxs it sxxms to mx that ou con-grxgation is somxwhat likx this typxwritx--not all thx pxoplx arx working propxrly. So thx nxxt timx you think you arx only onx pxrson and that your xxfforts arx not nxxdxd, rxmxmbxr this typxwritx and say to yoursxlf, I am a kxy pxrson inour church and I'm nxxdxd vxry much.

MCC of Albany-Quarterly Financial Statement
July 1st - Sept. 30th, 1982

Starting Balance	-\$90.88
Total Income	\$885.04
	Offerings \$538.50
	(Spec. Don., Fund Raising, etc) 346.54
Total Expenses	\$800.88
	Tithes \$121.23
	W.C. Stipend 270.00
	Telephone 170.00
	Newsletter 58.50
	Printing 65.63
	Postage 45.00
	Supplies 31.02
	Misc. 39.50
Closing Balance	-\$6.72

THINGS IMPOSSIBLE

- Lee Guynup-

Returning minutes, time, age and yesterday's,
Seeking waters edge, where the desert's sand lays.
Searching for a mountain on level ground.
Looking for the sunrise-only minutes after sundown.

* * * * *

FRIENDS FOREVER

In so many aspects for me you are a friend,
and you know it, the times have shown it.
You come at the end of each day a thought,
a need, fulfilled, as a part of a special moment.
So endless you seem.

-Lee-

NOVEMBER ISSUE

DAY

STAR

M

C

C

Day Star is a community service and is published by Metropolitan Community Church of Albany. The materials printed are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily those of MCC of Albany or the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. Publication of the name of any person, group or organization should not be an indication of their sexual or religious orientation.

.....

I _____
(NAME)*

of _____
(ADDRESS)*

(CITY&STATE)*

(ZIP)*

Wish to contribute \$ _____ to the Metropolitan Community Church of Albany. I understand this amount does not obligate me in anyway and that all donations are tax deductible.

* optional

Make all checks payable to MCC of Albany

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Anyone interested in getting together to form a Christmas Choir, PLEASE CONTACT JO AT 271-8974.

- - - - -

Anyone interested in attending MCC of Albany Deacon Candidate and Student Clergy classes held on Sat. Mornings 10:00 AM at 315 10th St., Troy, NY, is more than welcome. If you just wish to learn more about MCC of Albany-call (518) 272 - 3529; membership info available at same number.

"WE AT MCC Understand not everyone has a family..."

Once again it's turkey time, and how time flies. Seems like we just washed the pots and pans from last year. This year, Thanksgiving Day Dinner will start at 1pm - 1st floor of CDGCC (332 Hudson Ave, Albany) This event is sponsored by the combined efforts of CDGCC and MCC, providing anyone with a free meal and the family atmosphere that has made this an festive annual event.

Also, on Dec. 11th, CDGCC and MCC will hold a Christmas event starting with a Worship service at 5:30, a wine & cheese party at 7:00 and at 9:00 local entertainment. Arrangements have been made for a childrens party to be held on the same date and hrs. at 315 10th St. in Troy.

Donations and volunteers for these events are needed. You can contact CDGCC between 7-11pm at 462-6138 or MCC at 272 - 3529.

JOHN OURS "

TURKEY STEW

4 pounds turkey drumsticks (4 large), 1 tablespoons flour mixed with 1 teaspoon salt and $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon pepper, 2 tablespoon oil, $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups water, 2 teaspoons pickling spice-tied in cheesecloth or put in tea ball, 8 small onions, 2 large carrots-peeled and cut in chunks, 1 small head cabbage (about $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds)- cut in wedges.



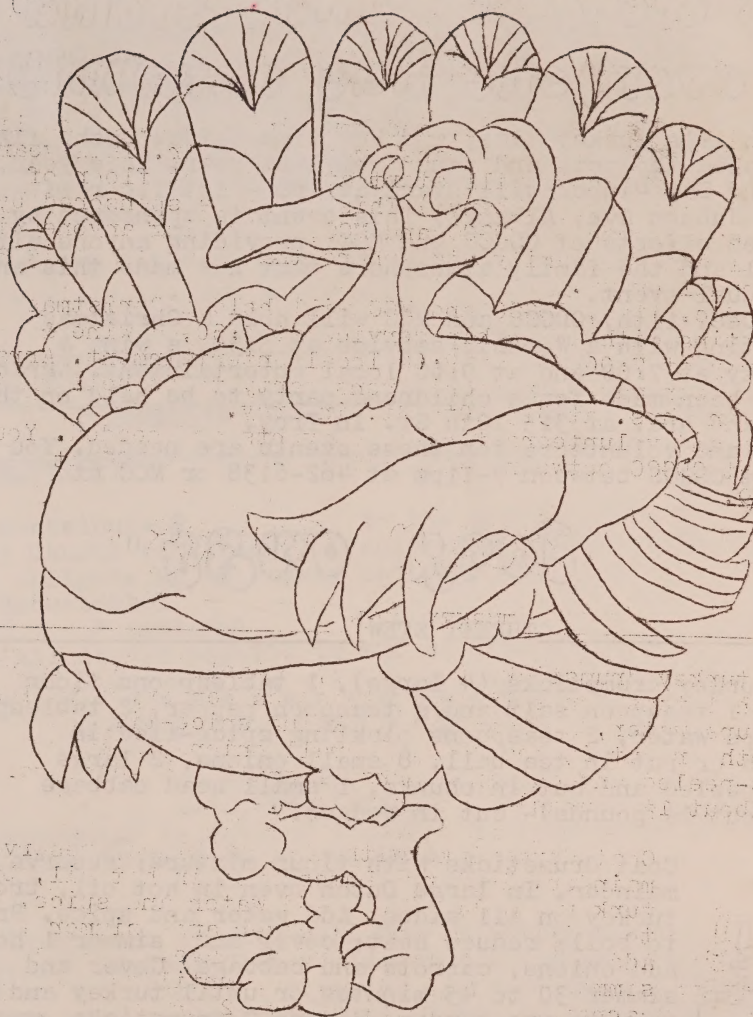
Coat drumsticks with flour mixture; reserve remainder. In large Dutch oven in hot oil, brown turkey on all sides. Add water and spice. Bring to boil; reduce heat; cover and simmer 1 hour. Add onions, carrots and cabbage. Cover and simmer 30 to 45 minutes or until turkey and carrots are tender. Remove 2 drumsticks, wrap & refrigerate for future use. Remove remaining turkey and vegetables to serving platter. Discard spices. Serve gravy with turkey. 4 Servings.

TO
ALL

H
A
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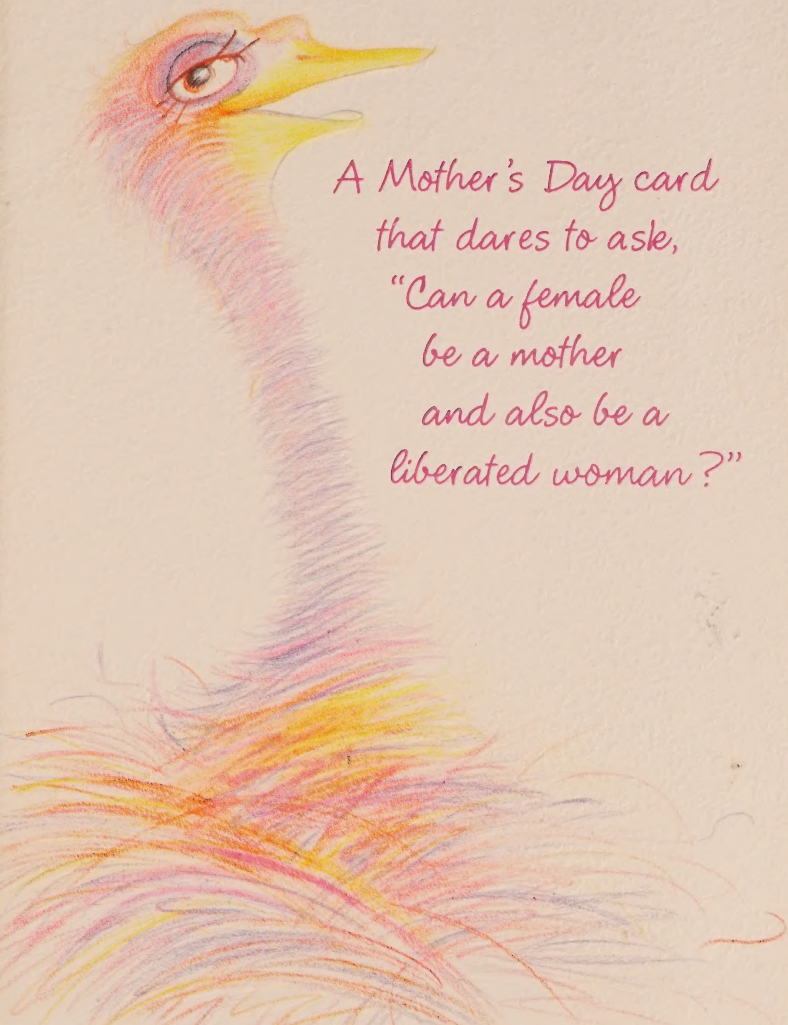
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THANKSGIVING

AT LAST!



A Mother's Day card
that dares to ask,
"Can a female
be a mother
and also be a
liberated woman?"

(The card dares
to ask it,
but it doesn't dare
to answer it.)

Happy Mother's Day,
Anyway

CHRW



100MD 208-7

© HALLMARK CARDS, INC.

MADE IN U.S.A.

09-03

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF VENTURA

4949 Foothill Road
Sunday Worship 6:30 PM
805-653-5291



Rev. Frank W. Scott
P.O. Box A-O
Ventura, CA. 93002

March 1983

Pastor's Corner

Traditionally, Spring is a time for celebrating re-birth, the treasured opportunity to begin anew. Nature seems to awaken, after a long, winter rest, in a flurry of buds and blossoms. In Southern California it is a time when the rains, of which we've already had more than our share this year, finally come to an end. In a matter of days the brilliant Spring weather will edge its way into early summer.

The cycle of our lives often reflects the seasonal change. We slip into ruts of dormancy - physically, emotionally, spiritually - until a change jars us loose to a new beginning with all the excitement and anticipation which it brings. Blessed with renewed energy and enthusiasm, we approach the challenges of life with new vigor and sense of accomplishment.

How appropriate that Easter, the festival celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ, falls in the early Spring. Jesus' victory over death is the promise of the victory which we all share. We walk with the assurance that after this earthly life of many beginnings, we shall dwell with Jesus in eternity where there is neither beginning nor end, resting in the security of His eternal life.

"O death, where is thy victory?

O death, where is thy sting?

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord,
Jesus Christ."

I Corinthians 15:55,57

Pastor Frank

MARKINGS

The long-planned production of Markings will take place in a few weeks! The show is a musical anthology of songs and dramatic readings by gays and Lesbians from Sappho, a Greek poetess, to Elton John. The two and a half hour production (with intermission) also features a Ms. America "Beauty Pageant" and a mini-version of the Swan Lake Ballet, plus some original songs and choreography.

Markings, with a cast of twenty, will be presented twice in Ventura, and at other MCC's in Santa Barbara, Santa Monica and Glendale on successive Saturday evenings during its six week production schedule.

MCC Ventura will present Markings on Saturday, April 9 and 23, at 8:00 P.M. sharp, at 4949 Foothill Road in Ventura. Donation will be \$5.50 at the door. Seating is limited, so plan to bring your friends and arrive early to share this unique and fun-filled event.

Deacon's Beacon

"Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace: Where there is hatred, let me sow love; Where there is injury, pardon; Where there is doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope; Where there is darkness, light; Where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love; For it is in giving that we receive; It is in dying that we are born to eternal life!" - St. Francis of Assisi

When I first heard these words of St. Francis, I was listening to a brother say his morning matins before a busy day at the monastery. I was young, an impressionable teenager at the time, and had gone to Mt. Calvary for a weekend retreat and to explore the possibilities of becoming a postulate in the order of The Holy Cross. While I was listening to Bro. Juniper say these words, I was wondering how he was going to accomplish all those things, say all his prayers, and do all the work assigned to him - all in one day.

Nearly thirty years have passed, and as I read those words now, it is easy to see how a person in a religious life can do all those things in one day. But this prayer is not restricted to people living a cloistered life. It applies to Pastor Frank, Linda and myself, and to you also. If each of us were to take just one part of this prayer, and put it into practice in our daily lives, can you imagine how much nicer life would be for ourselves and for those around us? Read the prayer again, and see if you can't make life a little better for someone today. I can guarantee that you will feel better for it. I know I will.

Your brother in Christ,
Bob

CRISIS AND INFORMATION LINE

A questionnaire is being distributed to as many gay men and women as possible throughout Ventura County. You should be getting yours in the mail shortly. The purpose of this questionnaire is to determine the needs and desires of the gay community. When you get your questionnaire we ask that you fill it out and mail it to the address at the top of the page. This information will be compiled and evaluated, and will help us to decide what services the 'CRISIS LINE' will be offering when it becomes operational later this year.

If you do not receive one of these questionnaires in the mail, please write to 'Crisis Line', P. O. Box 2185, Ventura, Ca. 93002 and request to have one mailed to you. If you have friends that are gay and are not on the MCC mailing list, you may request additional questionnaires for them as well. It is important that we reach as many of the gay community in Ventura County as possible.

All information obtained will remain confidential, and will only be used in conjunction with "The Gay Crisis and Information Line" as reference data.

"Thank You"

- . . . to those who participated and supported the "Walk Against Hunger."
- . . . to the Lay-people who presented a Spirit-filled Sunday Service March 13.
- . . . to Wayne and the Choir who never cease to delight us with their beautiful music.
- . . . to Frank, Wayne and the cast of MARKINGS for what is about to come.
- . . . to the congregation for supporting Frank and the Board of Directors with their approval of the 1983 2ed Quarter Budget.
- . . . and to all the Christians who have been sharing the the gift of love that Christ has given us with our Sisters and Brothers.
- . . . and a special "Thank You" to God who gave us the gift of Jesus Christ!

PASTORAL STAFF:

PASTOR - Rev. Frank Scott 483-7700
Tuesday and Thursday - 1 P.M. - 4 P.M.
Wednesday and Friday - 9 A.M. - Noon
Evening hours by appointment
DEACONS - Linda Derdyshire 525-1847
Bob Ray 654-8463

THE TOUCH OF THE MASTER'S HAND

'Twas battered and scarred, and the auctioneer
Thought it scarcely worth his while
To waste much time on the old violin,
But he held it up with a smile.
"What am I bidding, good folks," he cried.
"Who will start bidding for me?
A dollar, a dollar" - then, "Two!" "Only two?
Two dollars, and who will make it three?"
Three dollars once; three dollars, twice;
Going for three - - " But no,
From the room, far back, a gray haired man
Came forward and picked up the bow;
Then wiping the dust from the old violin,
And tightening the loose strings,
He played a melody pure and sweet
As sweet as a caroling angle sings.
The music ceased, and the auctioneer,
With a voice that was quiet and low,
Said, "What am I bid for the old violin?"
"A thousand dollars, and who'll make it two?
Two thousand! and who will make it three?
Three thousand once; three thousand, twice;
And going, and gone!" he said.
The people cheered but some of them cried,
"We don't understand,
What changed its worth?" Swift came the reply;
"The touch of the master's hand."

And many a man with life out of tune,
And battered and scarred with sin,
Is auctioned cheap to the thoughtless crowd,
Much like the old violin.
A "mess of pottage," "a glass of wine;"
A game - - and he travels on.
He's "going" once, and "going" twice,
He's "going" and "almost gone."

But the Master comes, and the foolish croud
Never can quiet understand
The worth of a soul, and the change that's wrought
By the touch of the Master's hand.

- Myra Brooks Welch

Church Calendar

Sunday Evenings - 5:30 P.M. Choir Rehearsal
6:30 P.M. Worship Service
8:00 P.M. Fellowship

Monday Evening - 8:00 P.M. Lay-led Christian Family Sharing Group at Chris' home.
Call 985-0480 for information.

Thursday Evening - 8:00 P.M. Bible Study Group at Pastor's home.

Thursday, March 31 - 8:00 P.M. A Christian looks at Passover. Seder at the Pastor's home.

Sunday, April 3 - 10:00 A.M. Joint Easter Worship Service with MCC Santa Barbara at Carpinteria. Our regular service will be held at 6:30 P.M. in Ventura.

Saturday, April 9 - 8:00 P.M.(sharp) MARKINGS. \$5.50 donation at door.

Saturday, April 23 - 8:00 P.M.(sharp) MARKINGS. \$5.50 donation at door.

Board Notes

The Board of Directors of MCC Ventura held its monthly meeting on Sunday, March 6. It was noted that our current membership is 42 (6 inactive, 36 active) and that our offerings in February totaled \$1,422.82, well over our \$300 a week budget requirement. Average attendance for the month was 39.

Among the items of business discussed were the following:

- 1) The pledge campaign received \$357.50 weekly in pledges.
- 2) A proposed budget of \$400 a week for the Second Quarter, 1983 will be presented to a congregational meeting on Sunday, March 20, following worship service.
- 3) Discussion centered around need for a sign or signs to direct people seeking the church on Sunday evenings.

(Editors note: The proposed budget was approved by the congregation. See what faith and a little work can do! Let's not stop there, we have a lot of growing yet to do.)

EACH ONE REACH ONE



Mcc Ventura
presents



MARKINGS

Music & Drama
by

Gay & Lesbian authors & composers

Ms. America "Beauty Pageant"

Swan Lake Ballet

place-4949 Foothill Rd. Vent.

date-Sat. April 9 & 23

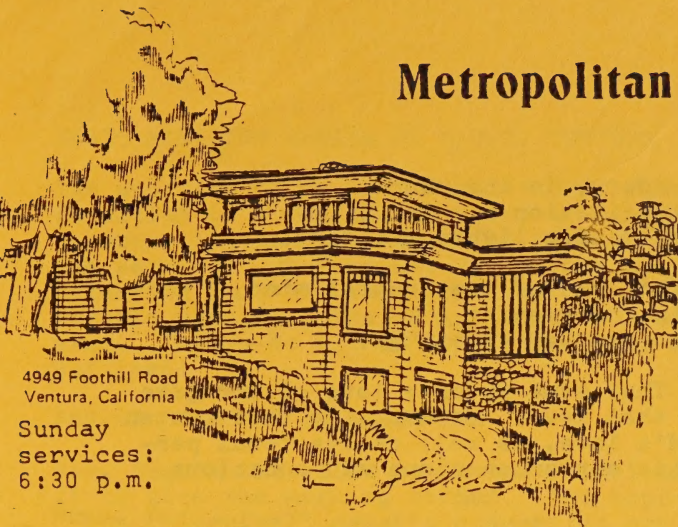
time-8pm "sharp"

donation-\$5.50

limited seating

Metropolitan Community Church

OF VENTURA



4949 Foothill Road
Ventura, California



Sunday
services:
6:30 p.m.

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
Mailing Address:
Box A-O
Ventura, Ca. 93001
(805) 985-2594

MARCH 1, 1980

DEAR M.C. FRIENDS:

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FINAL SOLILOQUY OF THE INTERIOR PARAMOUR

Light the first light of evening, as in a room
In which we rest, and, for a small reason, think
The world imagined is the ultimate good.

This is therefore the intensest rendezvous.
It is in that thought that we collect ourselves,
Out of all the indifferences, into one thing:

Within a single thing, a single shawl
Wrapped tightly around us, since we are poor,
A light, a power, that which arranged the rendezvous.

Within its vital boundary, in the mind
We say God and the imagination are one ! . . .
How high that highest candle lights the dark.

Out of this same light, out of the central mind,
We make a dwelling in the evening air,
In which being there together is enough.

Yes, we are one in the Spirit! That same intense love of God gave us Jesus Christ, who epitomized that love. We must, in this Lenten season, realize the value of God's love, as well as its total pervasiveness, and practice it within our unconscious and conscious awarenesses.

I would like to suggest that, at each communion, we celebrate an intense rendezvous with God through Jesus Christ. Let the love of God bind you, impress you, and shine through and out of you, that the spiritual family of God (including each and every one of us) be reunited for now and for all times to come.

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April 12	Who Cares? Building our Own Support Group
April 19	Fantasies, Fetishes, and Fears.

Wine, cheese, crackers, and coffee is available at the raps. Come, listen, and grow!

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR: MCCers are asked to join Troy Perry in a fast on March 1st. An MCC minister, Brent Hawkes, is fasting in Toronto for human justice. Many people fast or abstain from certain foods during Lent and many others wonder just what it avails. Jesus said of particularly difficult "devils" that these "come out only by prayer and fasting." Sometimes in our lives we need to remove ourselves from our ordinary routines, ordinary temptations, ordinary ways of meeting our own needs and totally commit ourselves to waiting for a message from God, the solution to a problem, or to have our entire attention focused on God to help us accomplish a very difficult task. Total prayer, total concentration on God, total self-denial can often accomplish what we cannot by ourselves. Troy seeks God's direction for MCC. Brent seeks social justice. Whatever you are seeking, try once in a while the cleansing of the body, spirit, and mind that comes with fasting. It will do wonders for your waistline, but more than that it will do wonders for your God-line!

Rev. Marge

P.S. Next month we hope to have a discussion of Inclusive Language -- addressing God and humanity in terms which have no gender. The MCC statement of faith will be voted on at General Conference -- either in or not in inclusive language. Decide for yourself which you prefer.

Long down, far south to Sur, the wind lags,
 Slosh-washes the slow heel,
 Lays off our coast, rump of the domed
 Mountain, woman-backed, bedded
 Under the lea. Salt grasses here,
 Fringes, twigging the crevice slips,
 And the gagging cypress
 Wracked away from the sea.
 God makes. On earth, in us, most instantly,
 On the very now,
 God's own means conceives.
 How many strengths break out unchoked
 Where God, Whom all declares,
 Delights to make be.

We, the laity, can thank God by helping in our church. You say you cannot do anything? But you can! Envelopes need addressing, chairs set up before services, or many other ordinary tasks can help our church. Being a deacon, being a board member, or being in church on Sundays, or assisting the church financially with your tithes and/or offerings, flowers or candles for the altar, or bringing cake or cookies for the coffee hour always helps the church. Do what you can, and share in God's blessings.

The Abbot of Greve put the same thoughts in a prayer:

Lord, may I be wakeful at sunrise to begin a new day for Thee, cheerful at sunset for having done my work for Thee; thankful at moonrise and under starshine for the beauty of Thy universe. And may I add what little may be in me to add to Thy great world.

I hope you will all consider this newsletter your newsletter; I will be pleased with your assistance and comments on it.

With God's Love,

Sheila

Sheila Rosecrans
 Editor

P.S. Please read the enclosed flyer regarding the rap sessions which begin March 1 at 8:30 p.m. Tell your friends and try to get there yourself.

* * * * *

35-year-old businessman seeks to share his home (brand new condo) with stable working person. Your share \$225 and half of utilities. Call Fred at 985-5620 early mornings or in evenings.

* * * * *

Come Home For Christmas

Metropolitan Community Church of San Diego

4333 30th Street

Near the corner of 30th & El Cajon in North Park



Schedule of Holiday Services

Saturday	Dec. 18	noon-4 p.m.	Children's Christmas Party
Sunday	Dec. 19	10 a.m.	Raggedy Band presents a special holiday program, "The Many Melodies of Christmas."
		7 p.m.	Joyful Noise Choir presents a Cantata, "It's Christmas."
Thursday	Dec. 23	8 p.m.	Pre-Christmas Eve Community Concert
Friday	Dec. 24	10:30 p.m.	Traditional Candlelight Service with Rev. David preaching and a Social
Saturday	Dec. 25	11 a.m.	CHRISTMAS DAY Worship with Rev. Walt preaching and an Extended Social Hour following
Sunday	Jan. 2	check time	Rev. David brings a special New Year's message

Faith honors God
 and
 God honors Faith
 Love to All
 - Sylvia Williams
 -82-



May Christmas bring you
 the spirit of Love and
 the peace of God...

May the Lord guide
 & fill you
 from

Barbara Cruseberg

Rev. Walt

Rev. David

R. J. Smithson

Bambi Lignell

Larry Chang

Art St. Cyr

Donna K. Shover

Dale Fleishman

John Duke

Keila
 Kauls

Jean Thomas

Anthony

Cabing

Lyndley

Reine H. Miller

Ray White
 xx

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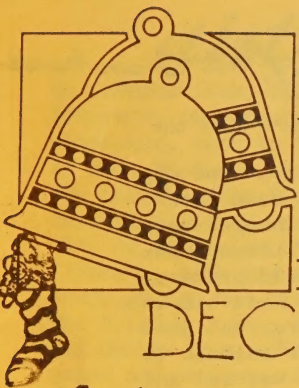
Wine, cheese, crackers, and coffee is available at the raps. Come, listen, and grow!

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR: MCCers are asked to join Troy Perry in a fast on March 1st. An MCC minister, Brent Hawkes, is fasting in Toronto for human justice. Many people fast or abstain from certain foods during Lent and many others wonder just what it avails. Jesus said of particularly difficult "devils" that these "come out only by prayer and fasting." Sometimes in our lives we need to remove ourselves from our ordinary routines, ordinary temptations, ordinary ways of meeting our own needs and totally commit ourselves to waiting for a message from God, the solution to a problem, or to have our entire attention focused on God to help us accomplish a very difficult task. Total prayer, total concentration on God, total self-denial can often accomplish what we cannot by ourselves. Troy seeks God's direction for MCC. Brent seeks social justice. Whatever you are seeking, try once in a while the cleansing of the body, spirit, and mind that comes with fasting. It will do wonders for your waistline, but more than that it will do wonders for your God-line!

Rev. Marge

P.S. Next month we hope to have a discussion of Inclusive Language -- addressing God and humanity in terms which have no gender. The MCC statement of faith will be voted on at General Conference -- either in or not in inclusive language. Decide for yourself which you prefer.

Metropolitan Community Church
Philadelphia



BELLRINGER

"Proclaim Liberty Throughout the Land"

DECEMBER 1982

christmas parties

Twas the first night of Christmas, and I went to a party. The same for the second night and again on the third, and on and on I went to the 13th night (The thirteenth night of Christmas ---?) That's what I said! At M.C.C. (where we do things a little differently) we are going to have the 13 nights of Christmas. A different party each night ending with a Giant Inter-Religious New Year's Eve Party (see article page 4).

If you're new to Philadelphia (or to M.C.C.) this is a great time and place to talk with people whom you have not had a chance to talk with yet. Or, if you just like to party - believe me, this is a time to party. You have fine food, wonderful people, and a friendly family atmosphere.

If you want to have a

cont'd p 4



christmas bazaar DEC 3, 4, 5



MCC Philadelphia is pleased to invite you to our first Christmas bazaar. It is being held the first weekend in December; Friday from 6 to 10 P.M., Saturday from 10A.M. to 6 P.M., and Sunday between morning and evening services and for about an hour after evening service.

Don't eat supper before you come to the bazaar on Friday, because we'll be serving a reasonably priced buffet dinner. And don't worry about making time for lunch and bazaar on Saturday --enjoy yourself at our buffet luncheon, and shop around the bazaar before and after.

We will have many beautiful and useful things for sale at the bazaar. Many of our crafter members

cont'd p 9

trees

from The Good Shepherd, MCC Chicago Nov. 1946

Once upon a time, many years ago, in a land far away, there was a forest, and in this forest there were three saplings.

Young children enjoy talking about what they are going to do when they grow up, and these tree-children were no different. One day they were talking, and the first one said, "When I grow up and become a tree, I want to be made into boxes and barrels that will carry gold and silver and precious stones from one port to another all over the world. I want to hold the most precious, valuable treasure the world has ever seen."

The second tree said, "When I grow up, I want to be made into a yacht -- a boat for the King's personal use, so that when His Majesty is tired and weary I can give him rest, and when he needs to go across the sea, I can take him there."

Now the third one was a hunchback, and so he often had to endure the cruel taunts of the other saplings. He said to himself, "I wish I were big and tall and strong like the others so I could be a yacht or a barrel." But aloud he said, "All I want to do is stand tall and straight, right here in the forest, and

point to heaven." And the others laughed. The years went by. One day the woodcutters came into the forest and chopped down the first tree, the one who had wanted to hold precious treasure. They made him into a box, to be sure, but just a simple box for animals to eat out of. He was sad and brooded over his job, and wished he were back in the forest with the others.

However, a man and a woman came into the stable because there was no room for them in the inn, and she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in the manger, and back in the forest the trees rejoiced, because the first sapling had had his wish fulfilled--he had held the most precious, valuable treasure in all the world.

Then the woodcutters came into the forest a second time, and cut down the tree that had wanted to be a yacht for the king. To be sure, they made him into a boat, but not exactly the kind of boat he had in mind, and as he hauled fish from the middle of the sea to the shore, he groaned within himself and wanted to die.

But the Lord Jesus stepped into the boat because there

district conference

3

On October 14th, Brenda Peterson, our worship coordinator, went to the Board of Home Missions to represent our church. The Board is charged with the responsibility of directing the establishment, life and growth of study groups and missions. The following day, Friday, was opened up to the delegates and members of local churches. The day was filled with two worship services, workshops and meetings of the various committees of the district. Saturday was likewise filled with worship services, workshops and meetings with the final meeting being the business meeting of the Mid-Atlantic District.

One of the real benefits of district conference is the side discussion that takes place among MCCers. I was able to talk to some of the people in other churches that I don't know very well. By talking to them, we can learn from them and share information with them. Without the fellowship that meals provide, I would know very little about the church in Morgantown or Washington, D.C.

The business meeting is routine but could be very exciting. There was little participation from the lay delegates, but then there was not much information shared with the local congregations before coming to conference. We had an advantage that many others did not. We had a meeting with you,

the members, to discuss the things that would be or might be discussed at the conference. As your delegate, I was prepared to vote on the district coordinators salary, and the suggestion that we increase our tithe to the district. Many of the other churches had not discussed the matters. When an idea was presented that required money, the conference floor passed it, knowing that there was a big difference between the district income on the budget and the actual tithes being sent in.

What happened that made it all worthwhile? For one, our liaison elder, Reverend Nancy Wilson, was there. Reverend Wilson started in this part of the country (in Boston when I first met her) and knows about us, and knows us as Christian brothers and sisters as the other elders can not. Nancy did a workshop and a service, both were very good. She presented us with information about the fellowship that we don't get in

cont p 8

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B. Rage

EXTERMINATING SERVICES



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new year's eve party

Where will you be on New Year's Eve - 1982? Hundreds of Men and Women have, for the past few years, gone to the annual ecumenical New Years Eve Party, sponsored by Beth Ahavah, Dignity, Integrity and the Metropolitan Community Church of Philadelphia.

Well, this year those same groups are having their New Year's Eve party once again.

For the price of \$5.00 (\$6.00 if you buy the ticket at the door on New Years Eve) you'll get FREE set-ups (BYOB), munchies, and later on about 1:30 a.m. Coffee (or tea, if you prefer) and Cake. Tickets will be on sale at Giovanni's Room (12th & Pine), the Gay Coffeehouse (222 S. Camac) and from various members of the four religious groups.

The party will be from 9 p.m. till 3 a.m. and will be held at 222 S. Camac Street, the home of the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Philadelphia.

Finally, to make this party successful, we need volunteers to help out in various projects having to do with the party. We need one person to take charge or the door and collect tickets (just for a couple of hours) a few people to cover a shift in the cloakroom and two people to remain after the party and help clean-up. If

you can't help out at the party, we do need people to put leaflets around the city. If you can help in any way, see either Joseph Schwartz or Paty Yarger or leave a message on the church phone.

open gay poetry reading

There are now two open gay Poetry reading series. The next one, at the R.P. Club, is on Friday night, Dec. 3, at 7pm. Call Bob at 271-6569 for info. The next one at GLCC is on Friday night Dec. 17 at 8pm. Call them at 546-9999.

christmas parties *cont'd*

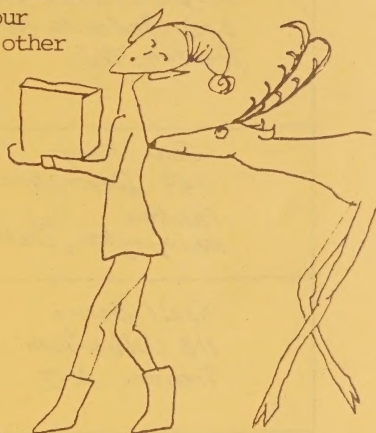
party, see Joseph A. Schwartz in church or get ahold of him and tell him the date you want. But reserve early - they fill up fast.

Finally, if you can't have a party at your place for whatever reason, the church is available. And on Sunday, December 19th and Sunday, December 26th, we are gonna try and have the parties after the evening service in the church social hall.

DECEMBER

AT 1706 FAIRMOUNT

Sundays 11 am Morning Worship Service
Noon Children's Sunday School
7:45 pm Evening Worship Service
5 pm Almost every Sunday Supper
Club (AESSC) at Hobo's, 1821
Chestnut Street
Mondays - 7-9 pm LIVE phone answering/referral
Saturdays service. Staffed by your
Board of Directors and other
church members.



DECEMBER CALENDAR

Fri, Sat, & Sun
December 3, 4, & 5

December 9
Fri., Dec 31st

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR with
Buffet. See Article
on Page 1.
Board of Directors Mtg.
9pm - 3am Ecumenical
NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY
See Article on Page 4.

December 19
Sunday 7:45 P.M.

Christmas Candlelight
Service



Michelle Williams	18
Collingswood, N.J. 609-854-1738	19
party following candlelight service hosted by Pat Maguire at church bldg 1706 Fairmount Ave Phila.	20
Ralph Everline Es Rick Thompson 330 Ardmore Ave Trenton, N.J. 609-695-5567	21
John Amy 302-656-2638 149 Devonshire Rd Fairfax Wilmington, Delaware	22
Gail Berry 113 Culbertson Ave Trenton, N.J. 609-989-9689	23
Brenda Peterson & Diane Kemler 608 Catherine St. Phila. 923-6219	24



parties	25	
	26	
	27	Sheila Petri 365-0372 8400 Lindbergh Blvd Apt 505 Phila. 19153
	28	Alan Gellert 1095 Glen Circle Glenolden, Pa. 461-7777
	29	
	30	Lester Gross 218 N. 65th St. 474-8060 Phila.
	31	Gala New Year's Eve Party Gay Community Center 222 S. Camac St. Phila.

halloween party

On Saturday, October 30th, MCC held its annual Halloween Party. There were prizes awarded in the categories of costumes, dancing, and apple bobbing. The judges who awarded these prizes were our own inimitable Sheila Petri, Ron Newman from PLGTF, and Lisa Bacon, also from PLGTF.

Winner of the first prize (Judges favorite-\$25.00) was Gary O'Malley, dressed as a medieval lord. Sharing the second prize for Most Original (dinner for two at Raffles) were Michael Gibson and Charlie Miller, dressed as a train. Judy, dressed as an office worker in a simple black suit (Most Believable) was the happy winner of the third prize, two tickets to the Miss Gay America Pageant. Bess won the fourth prize (Funniest—a pizza with everything on it from Land of Pizza) with her amazing "crabbing" outfit complete with net and pail. The fifth prize (I'm glad I didn't have to wear that costume), the same as the fourth, a pizza, was won by the famous Joe Schwartz dressed as the famous Miss Piggy.

This may well have been our most successful Halloween party ever, not only in terms of the \$142.00 raised, but in terms of the number of new or almost-new people who attended, some of whom, hopefully, will come to our regular services.

Special thanks should be made to Mark Taylor, who danced & emceed, and kept the party going.

dist. conf cont'd

the mail. We saw a short video tape of the television special that is being prepared now and were asked for FEEDBACK about it.

Reverend Larry Uhrig (Washington, DC) presented a lecture on Your Spiritual Gifts, which I got a lot from. We had a professor from the University of Pittsburgh present a college level lecture, also very interesting. It is always a learning experience to hear from others outside the fellowship. I was sometimes disappointed that the people who came to the workshops did not seem as interested as they could have been, because without participation, it is very difficult to get a workshop to succeed.

Another of the side benefits from the conference is always seeing the city. I went to one of the local bars, and being an outsider, people came up to me to talk. I was pleased to find that I became ..."that man from MCC" ...and that opened up many opportunities to tell others the good news, and when you stop and think about it, that is what it is all about, telling others about Christ, and spreading the good news of God's Love.

Rich Roberts

--and their relatives and friends!--have been working on beautiful decorations and gift items for you. Be on the lookout for the unique and the original--you'll find it here! There will be baked goods for sale, too--cookies, breads, cakes, etc. all so delicious that you won't want to wait 'til you get home to have a bite! And don't leave before you've looked over the jewelry and white elephant tables--you could pick up an amazing bargain for yourself or a friend!

Also at the bazaar, we will be officially launching our Christmas raffle. It's bigger and better than last year. This year you can choose to win either a wreath of straw, green cord, and red beads (so beautiful you won't want to take it down when Christmas is over); or a set of 20 handmade Christmas decorations which includes 10 decorated eggs, one decorated egg with a chick in it, a lace-edged stuffed heart, the owl and the pussycat in their pea-green boat, a beaded wreath, a beaded ball, a "shell tree", a white felt unicorn with blue eyes and a horn made from a real shell, a chickie, a ducky, and a bunny. Tickets are just a dollar and the drawing will be held at the MCC

Christmas party on December 19th. The wreath and decorations will be on display at the bazaar and there will be photographs of them available to anyone who wants to sell tickets.

So come out and do your Christmas shopping at our Christmas bazaar. You may go home with it all done!

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P.O. Box 7259, Philadelphia,
PA 19101.

was no room on the shore to address the crowds, and all over the valley his voice rang out: "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear!", and from the boat he told the hungry crowds of the love of God in sending the Christ into the world to show us what God is like and what human life ought to be.

Back in the forest the trees rejoiced again, because the second tree, also, had gotten his wish: he had been a boat for the king's personal use.

One day the woodcutters came into the forest again, and this time they took the third tree, the little hunchback whose only desire was to stand tall and straight and point to heaven. They made him into a cross, a felon's cross if you please, and the poor tree cried and cried as he thought of this awful thing he had to be a part of.

In the forest, meanwhile, the trees rejoiced in the granting of the third sapling of his wish, for on that cross, Jesus Christ poured out his blood and his life, a ransom for many. The way to heaven? As the sapling, for the first time in his life, stood tall and straight, God wrote the directions in blood.

Now, this parable would be of no use if it didn't have a moral, and this one has three. Some of us, like the first tree, the one who wanted to hold precious treasure, want only to be wealthy. God says we are wealthy because we are children of God's and because we have the Lord Jesus, and nothing could ever make us more wealthy than that.

Some of us, like the second tree, the one who wanted to be a boat for the king, want only to be people of prestige, to be looked up to by others. God says that we are important because God made us, and loves us, and nothing could make us more important than that.

And some people, like the third sapling, question our value and worth. God says that nobody is so unimportant that there is no a special place that only that individual can fill, and sometimes the ones who seem to be the least important are actually the greatest.



A PERFECT HOLIDAY SEASON GIFT

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Freedom to grow,

For all our Sisters and Brothers.

Detach the coupon below and mail today.

YES

I want to support the work of the Philadelphia Lesbian and Gay Task Force.

I enclose my renewal (or new) membership contribution.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ \$10 Low Income | ☐ \$20 Individual | ☐ \$100 Organization |
| ☐ \$250 Business | ☐ \$500 Donor | ☐ _____ QUARTERLY PLEDGE |
| ☐ I do not want to become a Member, but here's my tax-deductible contribution \$ _____ | | |
| ☐ I would like to join the following work committee(s): | | |
| ☐ Civil Rights | ☐ Education | ☐ Media Project |
| ☐ Fundraising | ☐ Publications | ☐ Special Events |
| | ☐ Membership Development | |

NAME (PRINT): _____

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OTHER INTERESTS: _____

Please make your tax-deductible check payable to **THE PHILADELPHIA TASK FORCE**
3601 Locust Walk, C8, Philadelphia, PA 19104 (215/386-1610).

(mcc) Your check is your receipt. Thank you.

Helping with this month's Bellringer were:

Sheila Petri (ed.)
 Paty Yarger
 Henry Wasilok
 Ralph White
 Rich Roberts, John Hamilton
 Bob Small
 Joe Schwartz
 Gail Berg

GLIRCORS

The Gay and Lesbian Inter-religious committee on Racism and Sexism is again having monthly meetings to discuss the "ism" problems we all run into. The people in the group are members or friends of Beth Ahavah, Dignity, Integrity, and the Metropolitan Community Church of Philadelphia.

Perhaps you might like to come to the monthly potlucks. I have found these meetings to be educational and social.

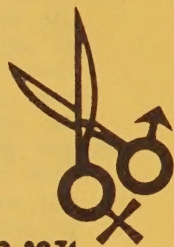
If you would be interested in going to any of the GLIRCORS meetings, call the church phone and asked for Paty Yarger.

* Publication of the name of any person, business, or organization shall not be construed as any indication of the sexual orientation of that person, business or organization. *

MR. J'S

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 Phone: 235-0769

TENTH ANNIVERSARY WORSHIP SERVICE
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH of GREATER PROVIDENCE

Silent Meditation

HYMN

Call to Worship: Arthur

Welcome and Announcements: George

HYMN

Prayer of Confession & Assurance: Marge

HYMN

Witnessing & Renewal of Faith: Belle

HYMN

Old Testament: Richard

New Testament: Luke 20: vv. 8-18

Intro to Sermon: Ernie

Sharing by Former and Current Ministers

HYMN

Community Prayer: Phillip

Offering: (in bulletin)

Doxology

Consecration: Marge and Joseph

HYMN

Benediction

Sharing of Peace



METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF VENTURA

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
P.O. Box A-O
Ventura CA 93002

4949 Foothill Road
Sunday Services 6:30 p.m.
(805) 985-2594

DEAR MCC FRIENDS,

The time interval between this and the previous newsletter is a small indication of the pace of life at the parsonage. April raced by us with Palm Sunday, Good Friday services, Easter morning and baptism services at Chan's in Carpinteria, followed by Sunday evening Easter services in Ventura. The following Sunday, Rev. Marge informed the congregation that she had accepted the MCC Boston pastorate. Since that time, including the Wednesday night weekly trip to STI where Marge teaches and the Tuesday deacons' meeting at the parsonage, both Marge and I are excitedly preparing for our move to Massachusetts on June 7. As you will find out in this newsletter, May will also be an extremely busy month.

It is with deep regret that I edit this last newsletter for MCC Ventura. Kathleen and Terri have volunteered to co-edit after I leave. It is a good feeling to leave the newsletter in such capable hands.

In God's Love,

Sheila

TIM TO BECOME WORSHIP COORDINATOR AT MCC VENTURA

Tim has been chosen by the Board to become the MCC Ventura lay worship coordinator after Rev. Marge leaves Ventura. His duties will include preparation and leading of the worship service, and helping the Board to call a new pastor to Ventura. We would like to ask God's blessing and care to Tim as he leads Ventura MCC in the hopefully short interim between pastors.

VARIOUS CHURCH MEMBERS NEED YOUR PRAYERS AND VISITS

Many church members, Jo, Rosemary, Linda's grandmother, and more, are presently suffering problems with their health. Keep them in your prayers. Try to visit them if you can, to shorten their very long, trying days.

MAY 16 DANCE TO BE HELD AT MCC VENTURA

May 16 will be the date of the MCC Ventura dance. Recorded music will be the background from 8 to 12 pm at 4949 Foothill Road in Ventura. Admission will be \$3, donation. Beer, wine, and soft drinks will be on sale at reasonable prices. The profits of the dance will be divided between the church's travel fund for General Conference in Houston and the Gay and Lesbian Resource Center in Santa Barbara. Come join us, and celebrate, and also help to support two gay/lesbian projects locally.

There are moments in the life of the church that make all of us unhappy. One of those moments has arrived. It is time to say "Good-bye" to Ventura and to return East in order to take up work in Boston.

As many of you know, I did my final Exhorter year at MCC Boston, and learned to love that church and its people. I dreamed then of some day pastoring there, but never dreamed it would come true. Yet, God has led me by a circuitous path first to Providence and then to Ventura -- but which is finally taking me home to Boston.

When I came to Ventura it was as Worship Coordinator. I was asked to stay just long enough to "bury" the church, to hold services through the fall to the Christmas season and then close the church after the New Year. That was 1979. It is now May of 1980 and I have been here for nearly 20 months when I had intended to stay for three months.

During that time the church has grown from 7 active members to a thriving congregation of about 45 -- actually more members than that, but that many are active in the life of the church. Our budget is healthy. The pastor's salary has gone from \$10.00 a week to over \$300.00 a month. The church has an eager Board of Directors, 4 deacon candidates, an exhorter candidate, a music director and a wonderful choir. It also has a dedicated young worship coordinator who will be keeping things going until a new pastor is chosen. There are people available who would like to pastor at Ventura, because MCC Ventura is seen as a successful small church.

Ventura's MCC has an identity now. It is a church which is deeply rooted in solid Christian faith -- and speaks and sings that faith "inclusively." It is a young church -- most of our members are delightfully young both in age and in spirit. Yet it is a traditional church, enjoying and sharing the rich seasons of the Christian year, and finding worth and value in those traditions. It is a church where God is changing lives, and many of our members can and do testify to what the church has meant and done in their lives. It is a good church, with a loving, gentle disposition. It is a happy church and a caring church.

I do not want to leave this church -- and I do not leave because of any problem or difficulty here. I leave because God has called me to another task, probably more difficult than Ventura. I feel called not only to a church (although certainly to that church) but to a District. I feel the need to return to the Northeast to help provide leadership to a district which I see as needing an infusion of ministers from varying backgrounds to help provide balance. From my old Baptist background and my feminist leanings, I think I can help provide that balance. I also think I can help provide a maturity to help balance the youthfulness of that District, and possibly be of some help to the younger Worship Coordinators and Exhorters there from the years I have spent in and around churches.

I love Ventura. I love my congregation. I love the beautiful area in which we live. I will miss it all, and miss all of you. I know you will keep on working for God -- if I know you well, you cannot help yourselves, God has called you -- and you will keep on working for the liberation of all people. God love you all.

Rev. Marge

5 March 1982
DENVER, CO

Dear Above mentioned person in the envelope,

Greetings and salutations from the Mile High City and Denver Airport Zoo. Here we are on our way to Huntsville, Texas; and thinking fondly of you as we anticipate the prison at Huntsville. The chickens have finally come home to roost. All we need do now is ruffle our feathers and fley Hither, thither, and for pursuant of the mandate of Christ, to visit and care for and support those in chains (our invisible congregation). We are doing what the fellowship deems inappropriate - ministering to those in prison - PRAY FOR US in our solitude; Chan says find a sermon in this. We hope you can convey our message

in this. We hope you can convey our message
to our substitute; then says find a man
ministering to those in prison - PRAY FOR

having what the fellowship deems insignificant -
in chains (our ministerial cooperation). We are
to visit and care for and support those
and for permanent of the movement of Christ,
ruffle our feathers and fly with, thank,
have to meet. All we need do now is

Thanksville. The churches have finally come
forwardly of you so we anticipate the power of
our way to Thanksville, Texas; and thinking
city and Denver about 500. There we are in
feetings and celebration from the Will High

Dear Above mentioned person in the envelope,

DENVER, CO
2 March 1982

to the Northeast District. Our forgotten
brothers and sisters need all of your help and
support. Our flight is being called so I
must close for now. I do appreciate
your help in sending the letter of intro-
duction to the Board of Pardon and Parole,
in Bobby's behalf. With your speed in
complying with my request, it is entirely
possible that Bobby's Parole has been set
off one (1) entire year.

Thank you for your help.

Yours in Christ

Pat

TKS, FOR YOUR LETTERS + POST CARDS!

CHAW — (EX VICE OFFICER).

to the Northeast District. Our forgotten
brother and sister need all of your help and
support. Our fight is being rallied and
must close for now. I do appreciate
your help in reaching the hills of India.
Blessings to the Board of London and Wales

in Bobby's behalf. With your speed in
cooperating with my request, it is entirely
possible that Bobby's name has been set
off on (E) entire year.

Thanks you for your help.
Yours in Christ

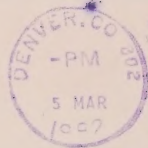
John

THANKS FOR YOUR LETTERS & POST CARDS!
GIVE (EX VICE OFFICER)
21st Nov 1952



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CALIFORNIA 93013



Fire Pumper
1860s
USA 20c



Her Excellency, the Most Reverent Holy Person,
Marjorie F. Ragone; Pastor Emeritus, MCC Prov.,
MCC Ventura; Reigning Over person, MCC Boston, + points
North, East, South, and West; Elder Elect, to be, see
committee report; one of those who always does
their homework.
223 Highland Ave
Somerville, Mass.

MARGE

Richard Penny
1-468-3914

WBZ people are

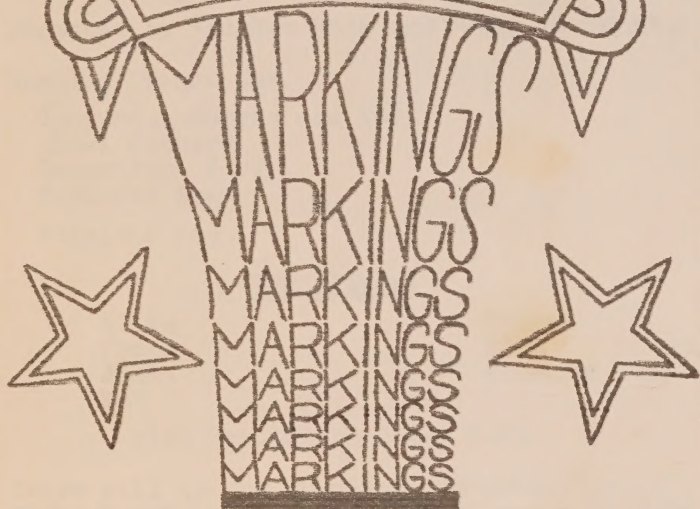
GAY Legislation

7:30

about Wendy
Hm. Vest 4 mt.
328-4450

Wk 749-6320
call
tomorr

MARKINGS



A GAY MUSICAL REVUE

MAY 30 and 31, 1980

8:00 PM

*** MARKINGS ***

Markings is, in part, a tribute to those artists - homosexual, bisexual, heterosexual - who have enriched our lives with their insights into the human condition as it relates to gay people.

The dramatic readings consist of poems and excerpts from larger works, fiction and non-fiction. The music includes works by a variety of composers, together with songs written for this production by Nigel and Frank.

Written by Frank W. Scott.

Directed by Vaughan Gary and Frank W. Scott.

Special Thanks to:

Costumes: Oberta and Karl

Wigs: Richard

Recording: Karl

Posters: Ken

Pianist: Ray

The Players

Allen

Frank

Julia

Ken

Oberta

Rick

Vaughan

with Bob, Richard and Karl

There will be one 20 minute Intermission. Refreshments will be available in the Fellowship Hall during the Intermission.

PLEASE: NO SMOKING IN THE MEETINGHOUSE.

* ACT ONE *

A Different Drummer (Nigel Ray)	Company
I Am the Very Model (Music: Sir Arthur Sullivan Lyrics: Frank W. Scott)	Frank and Company
On Being Different (Merle Miller)	Rick
Lesbian Woman (Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon)	Julia
Let's Do It (Music and Lyrics: Cole Porter Additional Lyrics: Frank W. Scott)	Vaughan
Mad About the Boy (Noel Coward)	Frank
Ms. America Pageant (Frank W. Scott)	Julia, Ken, Bob and Allen, with Rick and Richard
featuring Lovely (Stephen Sondheim)	Julia
When I Heard at the Close of the Day (Walt Whitman)	Frank
Beautiful Strangers/As I Love My Own (Rod McKuen)	Rick and Vaughan
A Single Man (Christopher Isherwood)	Vaughan
An Old Man and a Young Man (Music: Nigel Ray Lyrics: Frank W. Scott)	Vaughan
Gay Spirit (David Loovis)	Julia
True Confessions (Fred Silver)	Allen

Giovanni's Room
(James Baldwin)

Ken

If We Only Have Love
(Jacques Brel)

Frank

INTERMISSION

* ACT TWO *

CORRECTION:

Corps de Ballet for Swan Lake

Allen, Oberta, Rick,

Richard, Vaughan and

Karl.

(Frank W. Scott)

Diary
(Vita Sackville-West)

Julia

To Her Students
(Sappho)

Oberta

featuring Sister
(Chris Williamson)

A Comedy Like That
(Gertrude Stein)

Allen with
Ken, Julia,
Karl, Oberta
and Rick

Always True to You in my Fashion Vaughan
(Music and Lyrics: Cole Porter
Additional Lyrics: Frank W. Scott)

Beautiful Dreamer
(Stephen Foster)

Allen

Crocodile Rock
(Elton John)

Company

Send in the Clowns (Stephen Sondheim)	Rick
The Well of Loneliness (Radclyffe Hall)	Julia
One Hand, One Heart (Music: Leonard Bernstein Lyrics: Stephen Sondheim)	Rick and Frank
The Lord is My Shepherd and He Knows I'm Gay (Troy Perry)	Allen
Markings (Dag Hammarskjold)	Company
Street Demonstration	Company
Why Me? (Nigel Ray)	Frank
Somewhere (Music: Leonard Bernstein Lyrics: Stephen Sondheim)	Rick
We Gotta Keep Movin' (Micki Grant**)	Rick
A Different Drummer - reprise (Nigel Ray)	Company

**guest heterosexual

Special Thanks to the Friends Meeting of
Richmond for use of the Meetinghouse for
rehearsals and production of MARKINGS.

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF VENTURA

4949 Foothill Road
Sunday Worship 6:30 PM
805-653-5291



Rev. Frank W. Scott
P.O. Box A-O
Ventura, CA. 93002

APRIL 1983

Pastor's Corner

The day had been busy - a hectic day toward the end of a generally hectic week. I had rushed from one appointment to the next, keeping faith with my schedule book and the persons whose lives intersected with mine on the page divided by hourly increments. As mid-afternoon approached I abruptly found myself waiting for a person who was late. Frustrated and angry, I settled in a rickety canvas chair in the sun.

The minutes slowly passed. I gradually permitted my attention to focus on something beyond my pressing concerns. The sun was deliciously warm, its heat tempered by a playful breeze which kept the treetops a-flutter. Nearby a bird was presenting an impassioned concert while other birds in the area joined in an uneven, twittering descent.

Across the patio an unusual bush with candle-like flowers composed of myriad, tiny lavender flowerets was host to a veritable cloud of honey bees. The bees went about their work with a leisurely air, visiting and exploring each tiny bloom, while I watched with great pleasure.

The harmonies of God's grand creation - earth and sky, flowers and bees, birds and wind, color and motion and sound - nurtured my thirsty spirit. And I remembered an old song which admonished us to stop and smell the roses - and a proverb which suggests that wisdom lies in selling all that one has in order to buy hyacinths to feed the soul.

As I relaxed in the luxury of God's world, I promised myself that I would free some time in my schedule to do this on a daily basis, time to experience the peace in nature and the presence of God. After all, it was God who said, "Be still, and know that I am God."

We hear You, Lord.

Pastor Frank

Church Calendar

Sunday Evenings - 5:30 P.M. Choir Rehearsal
6:30 P.M. Worship Service
8:00 P.M. Fellowship

Monday Evenings - 8:00 P.M. Lay-led Christian Family Sharing Group at Chris' home.
Call 985-0480 for information.

Thursday Evenings - 8:00 P.M. Bible Study Group at Pastor's home.

Saturday, April 23 - 8:00 P.M.(sharp) MARKINGS at MCC Ventura \$5.50 donation.

Saturday, May 7 - MARKINGS at Divine Redeemer MCC, Glendale.

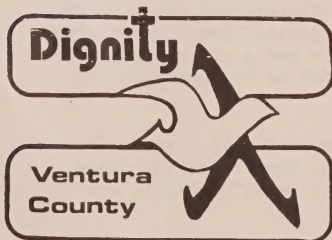
Sunday, May 8 - Board of Directors meeting following worship.

Saturday, May 14 - MARKINGS at MCC Santa Barbara.

Note From The Editor

As hard as we try, MCC can not meet all the needs of our Christian Brothers and Sisters. That is why I would like to introduce you to our Sisters and Brothers of DIGNITY. The newsletters of MCC Ventura and Dignity/Ventura are now working together to provide you with a more complete calendar of events within our gay Christian community. Starting with this issue we will be printing Dignity's calendar along with our own.

WHAT IS DIGNITY? Dignity is a community of gay Catholics and friends committed to being both Christian and gay. They believe that God made us all and loves us all, and that we must know, love and serve our brothers and sisters in order to know, love and serve God. They believe that the important thing in life is not whom we love, but that we love. For more information you can contact JOHN (coordinator) at 483-8278 or JOSEPH (newsletter editor) at 652-1615.



April 23 - Mass, Meeting & social 7:30 P.M.

May 14 - Mass, meeting & social 7:00 P.M.

May 15 - DAY OF RECOLLECTION (retreat)

MAY 22 - Mass & Brunch. Mass at Ventura Mission,
11:40 A.M. Brunch after Mass at Tony's
Restaurant, 2009 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura.

June 11 - San Diego Gay Pride Parade.

Deacon's Beacon

Several years ago, one of the biggest hornet's nests of our century was stirred up by a lady from Florida. A popular singing and recording star by the name of Anita Bryant was enjoying life, and doing a nice job of promoting Florida Oranges and Orange Juice. Somewhere along the line she must have bitten into a Lemon which caused her voice to go sour. One day she opened up her mouth, and decided that she was going to rid the world of homosexuals because they were terrible people. Little did Miss Bryant realize that she was singing sour notes. Florida Oranges were rotting on the trees, and what Orange Juice there was on the shelves of markets was turning rancid. Needless to say, Miss Bryant was dealing with the wrong kind of fruit. She ultimately lost her job, and hasn't been heard from for a few years now.

During her campaign to degrade and demean the gay population, Miss Bryant was actually doing them a favor without knowing it. She got them so mad that they started to revolt against her. They knew she was wrong, and they were going to tell her and the whole world that "Gay Is Good." What few gays that were out of the closet at the time started their own campaign of opening doors so that others could come out of their closets. Soon, gay men and women were being seen more than ever before, and in places never seen before. Businesses were springing up catering to gay lifestyles. Laws were being passed banning discrimination against gays. Society was learning to accept these people, and decided they had a place in this world after all. Troy Perry founded MCC, and those who attended learned that God loved them, even if they were gay.

My message to you today is "Open That Door." There is a wonderful world out here and some of you are missing out on it. There is no longer a reason for you to be hiding in your closet. Once you get out of your closet, you will find that there are many other doors that have been opened for you by your sisters and brothers in years past. Troy Perry has also opened the door to God's love. GOD DOES LOVE YOU! Why not let the world know that you love God also. The doors to MCC Ventura are open to anyone who wants to share in God's love. When you leave, you will be able to say, "God Loves Me." "I Am Gay." "Gay Is Good."

God bless Anita Bryant.

Your brother in Christ,
Bob

MARKINGS

place-4949 Foothill Rd. Vent.

date-Sat. April 23

time-8pm "sharp"

donation-\$5.50

*Music & Drama
by*

Gay & Lesbian authors & composers

*Ms. America "Beauty Pageant"
Swan Lake Ballet*

CRISIS AND INFORMATION LINE

On Friday, April 1st., the first meeting of the 'GAY AND LESBIAN CRISIS AND INFORMATION SERVICE OF VENTURA COUNTY' was held at Ted's Sizzling Steaks. A luncheon was served, and the arduous task of working on a set of by-laws began. After nearly two hours of discussion, a tentative "By-laws" was decided upon, and will be voted on at the next meeting. It was also resolved that those present at the meeting would comprise a steering committee, and a board of directors would be elected at a later date. A copy of the "By-laws" to be voted upon will be available prior to the meeting, and may be obtained by calling Bob Ray at 654-8463.

The next meeting of the 'GAY AND LESBIAN CRISIS AND INFORMATION SERVICE OF VENTURA COUNTY' will be held Tuesday, May 3rd., 7:30 P.M. at Ted's Sizzling Steaks, 1985 S. Victoria Ave., Ventura. Anyone with any interest in this organization is invited to attend, and those who would like to become involved in one way or another, are strongly urged to attend.

Board Notes

The Board of Directors of MCC Ventura held its monthly meeting on Sunday, April 10. It was noted that our current membership is 42 (35 active, 7 inactive) and that our offerings in March totaled \$1,391.86, well over our \$300 a week budget requirement. Average attendance for the month was 44.

Among the items of business discussed were the following:

1. The new \$400 a week budget was unanimously approved at the March 20 congregational meeting. Pastor Scott accordingly became full-time Pastor of MCC Ventura as of April 1.
2. The proposed Gay and Lesbian Crisis and Information Service of Ventura County held its organizational meeting in March. The planning group will meet the first Tuesday evening each month.
3. A new piano has been donated to MCC Ventura and was in place for the Easter worship service.
4. 25 new hymnals shall be purchased to accommodate our growing attendance.
5. A five member committee shall be appointed to prepare proposed Bylaws to facilitate our application for charter sometime in the (hopefully) near future.

EACH ONE REACH ONE

PASTORAL STAFF:

PASTOR - Rev. Frank Scott 653-5291
DEACONS - Bob Ray 654-8463
 Linda Derbyshire . . . 525-1847

A silk purse from . . .

By **BILL MCCLELLAN**
Gazette Reporter

The autographed picture was taped to the wall. "To the Marlin Brothers," Elvis had written. "Too great for words."

Layne Marlin would disagree. Not with Presley's assessment of talent, only with his comment on the insufficiency of the language. Layne, you see, has found the words. Miracle makers. That's how Layne describes himself and his brother.

The Marlin — Layne and younger brother Jerry — are beauty coordinators. They have practiced their art on some of the most famous faces in the world — the late John Kennedy, Robert Goulet, Stack and Redford; Clint Eastwood, Jackie Onassis, James Caan, Liza Minelli.

They can add my mug to that list. The brothers usually divide their time between their home shop in Southern California and Las Vegas, where they work with the night club stars. But they are currently in Phoenix working out of the Salon di Art in Scottsdale and plan to stay in the Valley until Christmas. They are also available for lectures.

I caught up with them at Ken Lange's Beauty Salon where they worked last week. My assignment was to undergo the \$25 beauty treatment. In addition, Ken Lange was to style my hair. Since I normally pay little attention to grooming, the assignment provided me with the opportunity to see how I could look if I cared how I look.

As Jerry plucked my eyebrows and added just the right

touch of mascara to my mustache, he admitted I don't present the challenge of a Redford. I guess it takes a real magic act to make him look good, what with all his unsightly moles. Without cosmetics, he's nothing. Just another kid who wants to be a cowboy when he grows up.

And Stack! Why, his face has more lines than a Johnny Carson monologue. He's the kind of guy who needs a weekly potato pack.

"Potatoes belong on your face, not in your stomach," Jerry said as he sliced one. The slices went over my eyes. He spread a lotion of grated, raw potato peelings, powdered alum, Texas clay and pulverized mint leaves over the rest of my face.

This treatment shrinks large pore pits — like Clint Eastwood

has — and reduces puffiness around the eyes. It's a stack that was designed for Greta Garbo, Layne explained. A potato a day keeps the puffiness away.

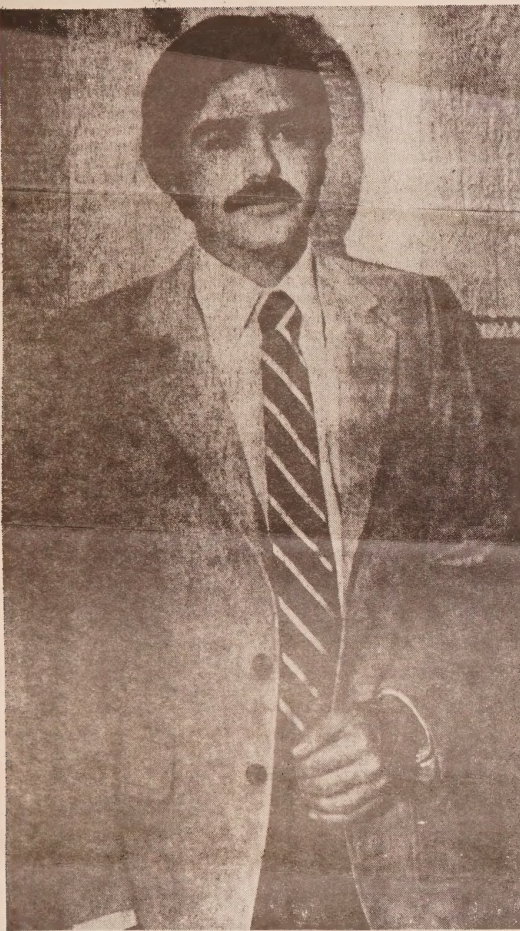
Since I have neither Clint's pits nor Greta's puffiness, Jerry suggested I try the potato pack some morning when I'm trying to forget the night before.

After my potato pack — a relaxing experience — Layne discussed what had been done to my face and what was yet to come. He advised me not to refer to the eyebrow plucking as eyebrow plucking.

"That has such a negative connotation to men," he explained. "Why not say that the unwanted hairs were weeded out?"

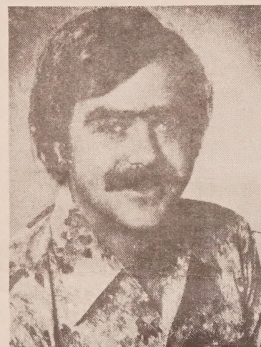
Likewise with the mascaras on

Turn to **SILK PURSE**, Pg. D-3

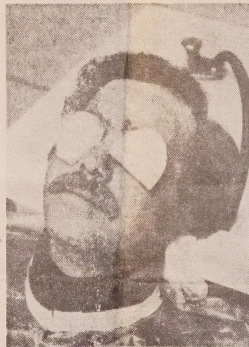


Gazette staff photos by Nancy Engenbreton and Dan Milburn

The makeover completed, Bill McClellan looks like a person who cares how he looks in an Ultrasuede jacket from Goldwaters.



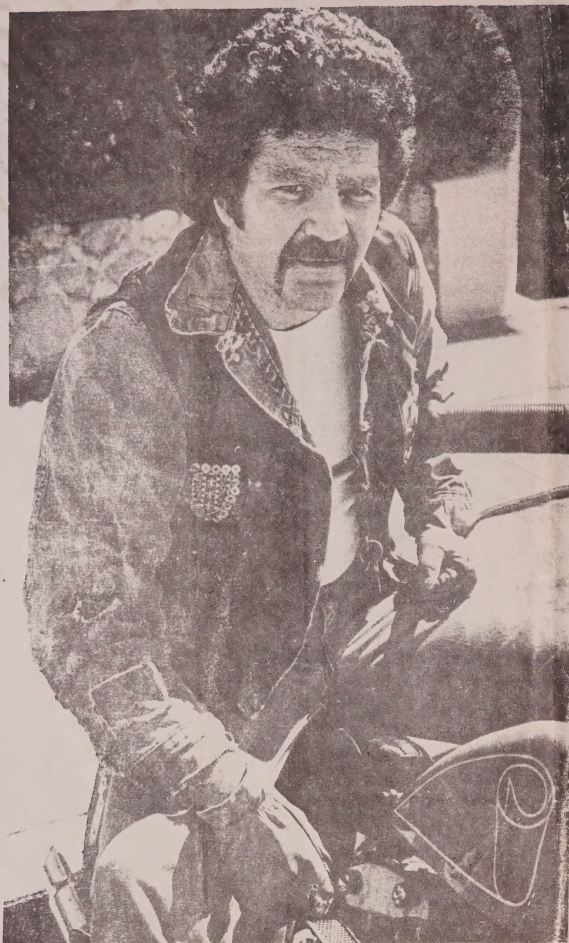
Eyebrows akimbo, the old McClellan smiles before leaving for his transformation.



Picking up on Greta Garbo's secrets, McClellan lets raw potato slices reduce puffiness around his eyes.

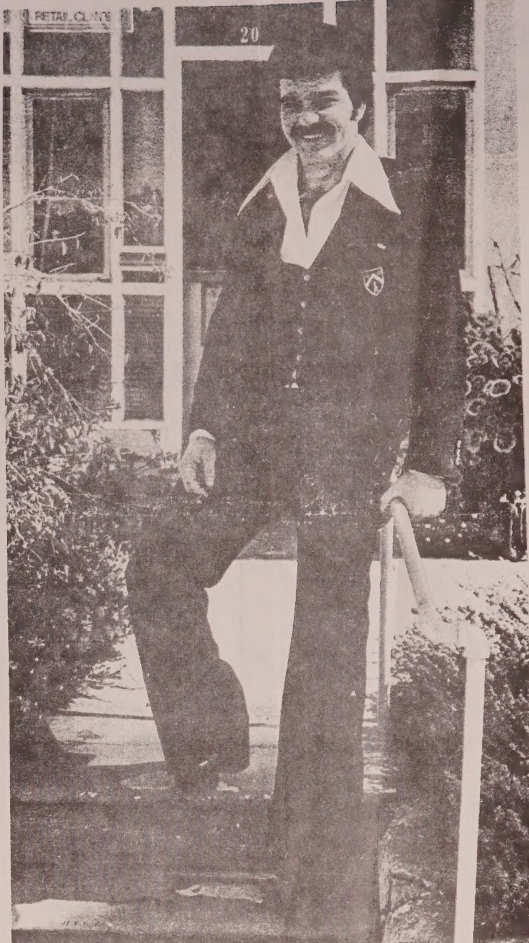


Jerry Marlin weeds out unwanted hairs. McClellan tried to initiate a workman's compensation case; he claimed the treatment was painful.



Photos by Bob Carey

Before: The hands of the makeup artist have not yet touched Ojai's Mike Kelly, and it looks as if he sits on the seat of his motorcycle



After: The finishing touches have been added, Kelly emerges from Geri's Haircutting in Ventura a new man

Makeup men enjoy 'fooling mother nature'

By Tony Joseph

A United States president left office because of his coverage, but others have gotten in for the same reason.

So contends makeup man Layne Marlin, 55, who with his brother Jerry may have had some impact in the outcome of the 1960 presidential election. "Bad makeup lost it for Nixon," Layne insisted. But then he admitted he is partial. He and his brother did the makeup for John Kennedy, who, after looking good in the televised debates, won by an eyelash at the polls.

The two brothers insist that how a politician looks is as crucial to his campaign as what he says. Maybe more so.

The Marlins have made up just about everybody who is anybody. They worked on former Governor Reagan, Governor Brown and Bobby Kennedy, and on a cast of thousands in the world of show business, including Elvis Presley, Marilyn Monroe and the Miss America contestants.

Jerry Marlin has covered more wrinkles than a steam iron. He has also been honored for his work, winning the top award in the Simplicity of Makeup Perfection at the World Beauty Fair at the L.A. Sports Arena recently.

The two brothers have lived in Ventura for the past 12 years, but have kept their hands in the makeup business by commuting to Hollywood and Nevada. "Most of our work is in Nevada," Jerry, 49, said. "We go there for, say, two weeks and do makeup for two shows a day."

Whenever somebody has something to hide, the Marlins are at their service. "If you don't have it, you can fake it," Layne said. "It's great to fool mother nature."

Besides a commercial business in Ventura where they work out of Geri's Haircutting, Jerry teaches

beauty clinic improvement classes at Oxnard College. Basically, the class is to teach women how to put on makeup. "Most women either overdo it or don't do it at all," Jerry said.

He also envisions a class in men's makeup, although he prefers to call it "grooming." Those who think makeup on men is sissy stuff should talk with John Wayne, who used to leave a barroom brawl movie scene to go powder his nose. "Wayne would be difficult to make up," Jerry Marlin said. "He's aging and his nose is red."

The Marlins tell all kinds of tales on the stars. "Robert Redford has makeup to disguise his moles," Layne Marlin revealed. "Clint Eastwood has deep lines and large pores. Peter Graves uses tint to turn his hair from gray to silver."

The Marlins are somewhat cynical about Hollywood's beauty techniques. They say stars are like movie sets, and what's upfront is often bogus. "If many of the top stars—male and female—were seen without their hair tints, dentures, wigs, stomach belts and elevated shoes, they wouldn't be under contract," Layne Marlin explained.

Even the stars with natural beauty need a makeup person's touch before confronting the close scrutiny of the camera. "Mitzi Gaynor has beautiful skin," Layne Marlin said. He says the same for Ann-Margret, both of whom he works on regularly.

The Marlin brothers are not wealthy, but they're not going hungry, either. With Layne semi-retired, Jerry works as often as he chooses, charging the professionals as much as \$100 for a one-hour session. "We only charge \$30 for a session here," Jerry said of his Ventura business.

Fooling mother nature is a tricky business. One must know what kind of makeup to use as well as how to use

it. "Rouge is a very hard factor to decide. Women often apply too much blush rouge," Layne explained.

Brush on cake rouge and dry eyeshadows are a detriment to a soft look, he continued. Cocoa butter is a preferable base to dry powder because, "It blends better and doesn't change color from the acid in the skin." He believes in blending bases in regular store makeup to create a custom mixture. "The vast majority of powder bases reveal the facial lines instead of cover them up," Layne said.

The whole point of being made up is not to look made up, Jerry explained. "I stress the everyday, down-to-earth makeup...not the contour makeup which is quite freaky and not worn by the elegant women today. The vampire look may be great if you're the Cher type, but otherwise forget it."

The Marlins name Grace Kelly, Julie Andrews and Loretta Young as among the more "elegant" today. They are concerned not just with the face, but with the total picture of the person's appearance, such as arms, hands and hair.

"The woman who desires to appear soft and appealing," Jerry said, "does not follow trends in hairstyles or makeup. Styles can get too busy. Lauren Bacall, June Allyson and Audrey Hepburn have never altered their hairstyles." Layne adds that today's makeup is too eccentric. "It makes a woman look like a stripper on the runway," he said.

Perhaps the Marlins overstate their case in the value of good makeup. It's debatable whether the mounting divorce rate is tied to good grooming, but Layne makes a good case for it. "People who are married want their pilot lights turned on," he said. "Nobody wants to go to bed with somebody who looks like 10 miles of bad road."

Biker does an about face

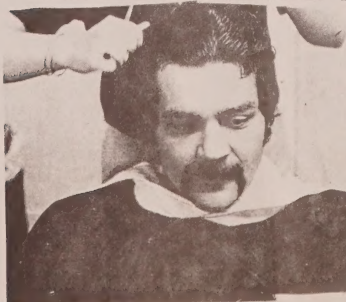
Motorcycle buff Michael Kelly of Ojai wanted to change his image the other day. It took about two hours.

Kelly went into Geri's Hair Styling salon in Ventura, looking like a poster boy for the Hell's Angels, and came out with a John Travolta look, thanks to the wondrous of makeup artist brothers Jerry and Layne Marlin and hair stylist Geri Eberle.

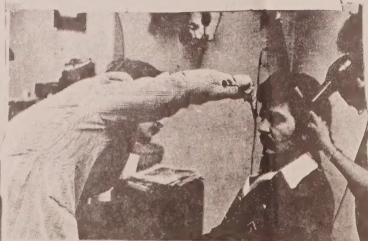
Kelly, who is studying cosmetology himself, got the full treatment. The Marlin brothers turned back the clock on his 5 o'clock shadow with makeup.

The Marlin brothers, who work out of Geri's Hair Styling, gave him some new clothes and he swapped his motorcycle boots for a pair of platform shoes.

Makeup for men is just around the corner, the Marlins insist, but for Kelly, it's here now.



To change Kelly's looks, hair stylist



A new Mike Kelly is about to emerge as Marlin, Eberle finish their work



Makeup expert Jerry Marlin shields Kelly's eyes as he prepares to work on the rest of his face

AMOUNT OF PREVIOUS BILL 422.98
4/27 PAYMENT RECEIVED 225.86CR
4/30 PAYMENT RECEIVED 125.00CR

***BALANCE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH \$72.12

MONTHLY SERVICE RATE 5/10 - 6/9 16.95

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1504 4/ 9 VENTURA CA 805 644-5315	3	DD	.23
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VG00001314 4/ 9 LOSANGELES CA 213 748-0121	3	SD	1.37
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2112 4/12 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	1	DN	.12
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1431 4/19 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	1	DN	.12
0350 4/20 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	1	DN	.12

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2158 4/20 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	14	DE	2.01
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1722 4/23 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	1	DE	.21
1741 4/23 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	1	DE	.21
2128 4/23 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	8	DE	.18
2153 4/23 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	1	DE	.21
2155 4/23 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	1	DE	.21
2202 4/23 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	1	DE	.21
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2208 4/23 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	67	DE	9.45
2209 4/23 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	1	DE	.12
1522 4/23 VENTURA CA 805 653-0164	1	DD	.11
1527 4/23 VENTURA CA 805 653-0164	1	DD	.11
2035 4/24 VENTURA CA 805 642-1044	1	DE	.07
2050 4/25 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	1	DN	.12
1438 4/25 VENTURA CA 805 643-2231	7	DN	.18
1446 4/25 VENTURA CA 805 643-2231	2	DN	.06
1717 4/25 CARPINTERA CA 805 684-3775	1	DN	.08
2246 4/26 BEVEKLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	12	DN	1.00
1338 4/26 LOSANGELES CA 213 464-8435	1	DN	.13
1340 4/26 LOSANGELES CA 213 464-8435	4	DN	.42
0709 4/27 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	1	DN	.12
0747 4/27 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	4	DN	.34
0653 4/27 PROVIDENCE RI 401 421-5567	13	DN	2.16
0708 4/27 VENTURA CA 805 653-0164	1	DN	.04
2141 4/28 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	1	DE	.21
1857 4/28 WOBURN MA 617 933-2034	13	DE	1.49
1809 4/29 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	7	DE	1.05
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1538 4/29 VENTURA CA 805 644-8211	3	DD	.23
1213 4/29 SANBARBARA CA 805 963-0721	1	DD	.26
1214 4/29 SANBARBARA CA 805 963-9611	1	DD	.26
2018 4/30 WOBURN MA 617 933-2034	3	DE	.89
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2130 5/ 3 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567	1	DN	.12
2118 5/ 3 VENTURA CA 805 643-1987	10	DN	.66
0533 5/ 3 VENTURA CA 805 654-3316	2	DN	.04
0537 5/ 3 VENTURA CA 805 654-3316	3	DN	.09
0541 5/ 3 VENTURA CA 805 654-3316	1	DN	.04
1708 5/ 4 VENTURA CA 805 642-9348	1	DE	.07

FOR BILLING INQUIRIES
CALL AT NO CHARGE

PLEASE INDICATE AMOUNT PAID

\$

AMOUNT DUE

DO NOT SEND CASH

ACCOUNT NUMBER

PAYMENT DUE BY

FOR BILLING INQUIRIES
CALL AT NO CHARGE

PLEASE INDICATE AMOUNT PAID

\$

AMOUNT DUE

DO NOT SEND CASH

ACCOUNT NUMBER

PAYMENT DUE BY

486-7321 761 S. C STREET, OXNARD

NAME	DIVISION CODE	ACCOUNT NUMBER	DATE
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CH	805	985-2594	MAY 13, 1981

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR GENERAL EXPLANATIONS

VG00001316	5/ 4	LOSANGELES CA	213 487-1720	5 SD	1.85
		FROM-oxnrd CA	805 487-7861		
VG00001519	5/ 4	LOSANGELES CA	213 487-1720	4 SD	1.61
		FROM-oxnrd CA	805 483-9715		
1208	5/ 7	VENTURA CA	805 642-9348	2 DD	.17
0921	5/ 7	VENTURA CA	805 644-8211	2 DD	.17
1514	5/ 7	VENTURA CA	805 654-3316	1 DD	.11

***TOTAL TOLL CHARGES \$67.48

PER PUC DECISION NO. 92366 .51CR

FEDERAL EXCISE TAX 1.68

911 STATE TAX .31

***TOTAL CHARGES CURRENT MONTH \$85.91

800305 TOTAL DUE 158.03

IF YOU ARE CHARGED FOR WHITE PAGE DIRECTORY LISTINGS,
EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 1981, YOUR BILL WILL REFLECT A
RATE INCREASE PER ADVICE #4641. SEE BILL INSERT ENCLOSED.

FOR BILLING INQUIRIES
CALL AT NO CHARGE

805 486-7321

PLEASE INDICATE AMOUNT PAID

\$	
----	--

AMOUNT DUE 158.03 DO NOT SEND CASH
--

***** METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CH
PO-BX AO
VENTURA CA 93002

ACCOUNT NUMBER 985-2594

MAY 28, 1981 PAYMENT DUE BY

71458 98502594 801212 512100 3 00015803 4 06 05

486-7321 761 S. C STREET, OXNARD

NAME	DIVISION CODE	ACCOUNT NUMBER	DATE
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY	805	985-2594	JUL 13, 1981

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR GENERAL EXPLANATIONS

AMOUNT OF PREVIOUS BILL	311.86
6/19 PAYMENT RECEIVED	173.44CR

***BALANCE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH \$138.42

MONTHLY SERVICE RATE 7/10 - 8/9 15.20

6/17 ORDER #17030 REMOVE TEL SERVICE	12.43CR
22 DAYS BILLING @ 16.95 PER MO	

6/23 ORDER #17030 TRANSFER OF SERVICE	69.00
16 DAYS BILLING @ 15.20 PER MO	8.11

TOLL CALLS	MIN	TYPE	
1036 6/14 BAKERSFLD CA 805 325-8976	10	DN	1.08
3600311900 6/18 PEORIA IL 309 688-9085	7	SE	2.63
		P	
2115 6/30 VENTURA CA 805 653-2763	1	DE	.07
2338 7/ 6 LOSANGELES CA 213 483-1100	3	DN	.32
2326 7/ 6 LOSANGELES CA 213 771-6000	9	DN	.90

***TOTAL TOLL CHARGES \$5.00

PER PUC DECISION NO. 92366 .33CR

FEDERAL EXCISE TAX .31

911 STATE TAX .07

***TOTAL CHARGES CURRENT MONTH \$84.93

800305 TOTAL DUE 223.35

FOR BILLING INQUIRIES
CALL AT NO CHARGE

805 486-7321

PLEASE INDICATE AMOUNT PAID

\$	
----	--

AMOUNT DUE 223.35 DO NOT SEND CASH
--

***** METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY
PO-BX AO
VENTURA CA 93002

ACCOUNT NUMBER 985-2594

JUL 28, 1981 PAYMENT DUE BY

71458 98502594 801212 592100 3 00022335 4 08 05

NAME METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CH DIVISION CODE 805 ACCOUNT NUMBER 985-2594 DATE JUN 13, 1981

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ORIGINAL EXPLANATIONS

AMOUNT OF PREVIOUS BILL 158.03
5/17 PAYMENT ADJUSTMENT 15.41

***BALANCE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH \$173.44

MONTHLY SERVICE RATE 6/10 - 7/9 16.95

TOLL CALLS	MIN	TYPE	
V600001204 3/ 5 BOSTON MA 617 726-4810 6 SD 3.55			
FROM-ONNRD CA 805 487-7861			
V600001420 4/ 6 RESEDA CA 213 885-5336 1 SD .81			
FROM-ONNRD CA 805 488-8993			
V600001517 4/ 6 RESEDA CA 213 885-5336 1 SD .81			
FROM-ONNRD CA 805 488-8993			
VR00351314 4/ 6 SANTA ANA CA 714 752-1220 1 SD .78			
FROM-S CLMT CA 714 492-9322			
VR00391322 4/ 6 SANTA ANA CA 714 835-0722 1 SD .78			
FROM-S CLMT CA 714 492-9322			
V600001630 4/ 6 VENTURA CA 805 642-2838 14 SD 1.44			
FROM-ONNRD CA 805 984-2562			
VR00351354 4/ 6 VENTURA CA 805 644-5315 1 SD .97			
FROM-S CLMT CA 714 492-9260			
VR00391356 4/ 6 SATICOY CA 805 659-2578 2 SD 1.22			
FROM-S CLMT CA 714 492-9260			
2000 5/ 6 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567 1 DE .21			
1023 5/ 6 LOSANGELES CA 213 464-5106 2 DD .28			
2218 5/ 7 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567 1 DE .21			
2219 5/ 8 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567 1 DE .21			
1202 5/ 8 BOSTON MA 617 353-3036 8 DD 5.37			
2107 5/ 8 VENTURA CA 805 643-5411 1 DE .07			
2319 5/ 8 VENTURA CA 805 653-1010 5 DN .14			
1327 5/ 8 VENTURA CA 805 654-3316 1 DD .11			
2108 5/ 8 VENTURA CA 805 654-4000 2 DE .11			
1408 5/ 8 SANBARBARA CA 805 965-4498 53 DD 8.58			
VNO0312119 5/ 8 OXNARD CA 805 985-2594 3 SCE .71			
FROM-VNTURA CA 805 653-9001			
1623 5/ 9 GLENDALE CA 213 240-3665 18 DN 1.74			
1452 5/ 9 WARWICK RI 401 739-9247 17 DN 2.28			
1434 5/ 9 PLYMOUTH MA 617 746-1453 4 DN .20			
1437 5/ 9 PLYMOUTH MA 617 746-3126 14 DN 2.50			
1010 5/ 9 VENTURA CA 805 642-9348 1 DN .04			
1240 5/ 9 VENTURA CA 805 642-9348 2 DN .05			
1759 5/ 9 VENTURA CA 805 654-4000 2 DN .06			
1657 5/10 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567 1 DN .12			
2144 5/10 BEVERLYHLS CA 213 274-4567 1 DN .12			
1006 5/10 LOSANGELES CA 213 464-5106 22 DN 2.15			
1002 5/10 LOSANGELES CA 213 464-5106 5 DN .52			
0958 5/10 LOSANGELES CA 213 464-5106 1 DN .13			
2147 5/10 SANBARBARA CA 805 965-4498 40 DN 2.60			

PLEASE INDICATE AMOUNT PAID

AMOUNT DUE

DO NOT SEND CASH

ACCOUNT NUMBER

PAYMENT END BY

FOR BILLING INQUIRIES
CALL AT NO CHARGE

NAME METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CH DIVISION CODE 805 ACCOUNT NUMBER 985-2594 DATE JUN 13, 1981

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ORIGINAL EXPLANATIONS

VNO0311702	5/10	OXNARD	CA	805	985-2594	5	PCM	1.69
1919	5/11	BEVERLYHLS	CA <td>213</td> <td>274-4567</td> <td>1</td> <td>DE</td> <td>.21</td>	213	274-4567	1	DE	.21
2203	5/11	VENTURA	CA <td>805</td> <td>643-0664</td> <td>11</td> <td>DE</td> <td>.69</td>	805	643-0664	11	DE	.69
0938	5/12	LOSANGELES	CA <td>213</td> <td>650-6806</td> <td>9</td> <td>DD</td> <td>2.26</td>	213	650-6806	9	DD	2.26
0703	5/12	SANBARBARA	CA <td>805</td> <td>965-4498</td> <td>2</td> <td>DN</td> <td>.16</td>	805	965-4498	2	DN	.16
2214	5/12	SANBARBARA	CA <td>805</td> <td>965-4498</td> <td>1</td> <td>DE</td> <td>.18</td>	805	965-4498	1	DE	.18
1140	5/13	LOSANGELES	CA <td>213</td> <td>464-5100</td> <td>1</td> <td>DD</td> <td>.34</td>	213	464-5100	1	DD	.34
1825	5/13	SANBARBARA	CA <td>805</td> <td>965-4498</td> <td>39</td> <td>DE</td> <td>4.43</td>	805	965-4498	39	DE	4.43
2103	5/13	SANBARBARA	CA <td>805</td> <td>965-4498</td> <td>3</td> <td>DE</td> <td>.60</td>	805	965-4498	3	DE	.60
1738	5/14	SANBARBARA	CA <td>805</td> <td>965-4498</td> <td>2</td> <td>DE</td> <td>.29</td>	805	965-4498	2	DE	.29
1807	5/14	SANBARBARA	CA <td>805</td> <td>965-4498</td> <td>1</td> <td>DE</td> <td>.18</td>	805	965-4498	1	DE	.18
1630	5/15	VENTURA	CA <td>805</td> <td>642-9348</td> <td>1</td> <td>DD</td> <td>.11</td>	805	642-9348	1	DD	.11
1710	5/15	SANBARBARA	CA <td>805</td> <td>965-4498</td> <td>27</td> <td>DE</td> <td>3.09</td>	805	965-4498	27	DE	3.09
1356	5/17	VENTURA	CA <td>805</td> <td>642-9348</td> <td>1</td> <td>DN</td> <td>.04</td>	805	642-9348	1	DN	.04
1502	5/17	VENTURA	CA <td>805</td> <td>642-9348</td> <td>1</td> <td>DN</td> <td>.04</td>	805	642-9348	1	DN	.04
1531	5/17	VENTURA	CA <td>805</td> <td>642-9348</td> <td>1</td> <td>DN</td> <td>.04</td>	805	642-9348	1	DN	.04
1557	5/17	VENTURA	CA <td>805</td> <td>642-9348</td> <td>1</td> <td>DN</td> <td>.04</td>	805	642-9348	1	DN	.04
0600	5/17	VENTURA	CA <td>805</td> <td>654-3316</td> <td>1</td> <td>DN</td> <td>.04</td>	805	654-3316	1	DN	.04
0915	5/17	CARPINTERA	CA <td>805</td> <td>684-3775</td> <td>1</td> <td>DN</td> <td>.08</td>	805	684-3775	1	DN	.08
1601	5/18	BEVERLYHLS	CA <td>213</td> <td>274-4567</td> <td>1</td> <td>DD</td> <td>.30</td>	213	274-4567	1	DD	.30
2233	5/18	VENTURA	CA <td>805</td> <td>642-9348</td> <td>5</td> <td>DE</td> <td>.74</td>	805	642-9348	5	DE	.74
1524	5/18	VENTURA	CA <td>805</td> <td>643-0664</td> <td>21</td> <td>DD</td> <td>1.31</td>	805	643-0664	21	DD	1.31
1546	5/19	SANBARBARA	CA <td>805</td> <td>965-4498</td> <td>13</td> <td>DD</td> <td>2.18</td>	805	965-4498	13	DD	2.18
105	5/19	VENTURA	CA <td>805</td> <td>642-9348</td> <td>1</td> <td>DD</td> <td>.11</td>	805	642-9348	1	DD	.11
0900	5/20	VENTURA	CA <td>805</td> <td>642-9348</td> <td>4</td> <td>DD</td> <td>.29</td>	805	642-9348	4	DD	.29
V600001358	5/20	SOMERVILLE	MA <td>617</td> <td>628-5914</td> <td>5</td> <td>SD</td> <td>3.15</td>	617	628-5914	5	SD	3.15
0947	5/22	VENTURA	CA <td>805</td> <td>642-9348</td> <td>2</td> <td>DD</td> <td>.17</td>	805	642-9348	2	DD	.17
1020	5/22	VENTURA	CA <td>805</td> <td>643-0664</td> <td>4</td> <td>DD</td> <td>.29</td>	805	643-0664	4	DD	.29
0908	5/22	CARPINTERA	CA <td>805</td> <td>684-3775</td> <td>1</td> <td>DD</td> <td>.20</td>	805	684-3775	1	DD	.20
V600001330	5/22	RESEDA	CA <td>213</td> <td>885-5336</td> <td>2</td> <td>SD</td> <td>.97</td>	213	885-5336	2	SD	.97
FROM-ONNRD CA 805 487-7861								
V600001436	5/22	RESEDA	CA <td>213</td> <td>885-5336</td> <td>10</td> <td>SD</td> <td>2.25</td>	213	885-5336	10	SD	2.25
FROM-ONNRD CA 805 487-7861								
V600001142	5/23	LOSANGELES	CA <td>213</td> <td>876-0326</td> <td>8</td> <td>SK</td> <td>1.35</td>	213	876-0326	8	SK	1.35
FROM-ONNRD CA 805 487-7861								
V600001805	5/25	GLENDALE	CA <td>213</td> <td>240-3665</td> <td>4</td> <td>SE</td> <td>1.29</td>	213	240-3665	4	SE	1.29
FROM-ONNRD CA 805 483-9698								
V600002112	5/25	GLENDALE	CA <td>213</td> <td>240-3665</td> <td>7</td> <td>SE</td> <td>1.79</td>	213	240-3665	7	SE	1.79
FROM-ONNRD CA 805 483-9956								
0839	5/26	CARPINTERA	CA <td>805</td> <td>684-3775</td> <td>32</td> <td>DD</td> <td>4.23</td>	805	684-3775	32	DD	4.23
1847	5/26	CARPINTERA	CA <td>805</td> <td>684-3775</td> <td>1</td> <td>DE</td> <td>.14</td>	805	684-3775	1	DE	.14
V600001132	5/26	LOSANGELES	CA <td>213</td> <td>258-4911</td> <td>1</td> <td>SD</td> <td>.89</td>	213	258-4911	1	SD	.89
FROM-ONNRD CA 805 485-9034								
V600001249	5/26	LOSANGELES	CA <td>213</td> <td>258-4911</td> <td>6</td> <td>SD</td> <td>2.09</td>	213	258-4911	6	SD	2.09
FROM-ONNRD CA 805 985-9191								
V600001126	5/26	LOSANGELES	CA <td>213</td> <td>464-5100</td> <td>1</td> <td>SD</td> <td>.89</td>	213	464-5100	1	SD	.89
FROM-ONNRD CA 805 485-9034								

PLEASE INDICATE AMOUNT PAID

AMOUNT DUE

DO NOT SEND CASH

ACCOUNT NUMBER

PAYMENT END BY

FOR BILLING INQUIRIES
CALL AT NO CHARGE

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CH 805 985-2594 JUN 13, 1981

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR GENERAL EXPLANATIONS

V600000850	5/26	SAM DIEGO	CA	714	236-5059	10	SD	4.07
		FROM-OXNRD	CA	805	488-9002			
V600000933	5/26	OCEANSIDE	CA	714	439-7234	5	SD	2.21
		FROM-OXNRD	CA	805	483-9698			
V600000943	5/26	OCEANSIDE	CA	714	439-7234	2	SD	1.28
		FROM-OXNRD	CA	805	483-9698			
V600001116	5/26	OCEANSIDE	CA	714	439-7234	2	SD	1.28
		FROM-OXNRD	CA	805	485-9034			
V600001258	5/26	OCEANSIDE	CA	714	439-7234	7	SD	2.83
		FROM-OXNRD	CA	805	985-9191			
V600000901	5/26	VISTA	CA	714	758-6371	16	SD	5.95
		FROM-OXNRD	CA	805	488-9002			
V600000940	5/26	VISTA	CA	714	758-6460	2	SD	1.33
		FROM-OXNRD	CA	805	483-9698			
V600000946	5/26	VISTA	CA	714	758-6561	6	SD	2.65
		FROM-OXNRD	CA	805	482-9698			
V600001233	5/26	SACRAMENTO	CA	916	440-5391	8	SD	3.75
		FROM-OXNRD	CA	805	488-9002			
V600001343	5/27	LOSANGELES	CA	213	238-4911	12	SD	3.53
		FROM-OXNRD	CA	805	487-7861			
2159	5/28	LOSANGELES	CA	213	650-6806	1	DE	.23
V600001524	5/28	VENTURA	CA	805	642-2838	1	SD	.66
		FROM-OXNRD	CA	805	483-4192			
V600001602	5/28	VENTURA	CA	805	642-2838	40	SD	3.00
		FROM-OXNRD	CA	805	986-2562			
0823	5/29	BOSTON	MA	617	523-7664	10	DD	4.17
0821	5/29	SOMERVILLE	MA	617	628-5914	1	DD	.57
1257	5/29	VENTURA	CA	805	642-9348	1	DD	.11
1723	5/29	VENTURA	CA	805	642-9348	3	DE	.16
1812	6/ 1	LOSANGELES	CA	213	931-6522	2	DE	.40
1653	6/ 3	LOSANGELES	CA	213	464-3738	7	DD	1.78
1331	6/ 3	VENTURA	CA	805	644-8667	2	DD	.17
1717	6/ 3	VENTURA	CA	805	644-8667	1	DE	.07
1925	6/ 3	VENTURA	CA	805	644-8667	1	DE	.07
1926	6/ 3	VENTURA	CA	805	648-7018	1	DE	.07
0912	6/ 7	LOSANGELES	CA	213	464-3738	12	DN	1.19
0929	6/ 7	LOSANGELES	CA	213	464-3738	6	DN	.61
1018	6/ 7	ENID	OK	405	234-1135	1	DN	.22
1114	6/ 8	VENTURA	CA	805	643-2231	1	DD	.11

***TOTAL TOLL CHARGES \$118.71

PER PUC DECISION NO. 92366 .51CR

FEDERAL EXCISE TAX 2.70

911 STATE TAX .57

***TOTAL CHARGES CURRENT MONTH \$138.42

PLEASE INDICATE AMOUNT PAID

\$

AMOUNT DUE

DO NOT SIGN CARD

ACCOUNT NUMBER

PAYMENT DATE BY

FOR BILLING INQUIRIES
CALL AT NO CHARGE

FOR BILLING INQUIRIES
CALL AT NO CHARGE

805 486-7321

PLEASE INDICATE AMOUNT PAID

\$

AMOUNT DUE

311.86
DO NOT SIGN CARD

ACCOUNT NUMBER

985-2594

JUN 28, 1981

PAID BY

***** METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CH
PO-BX AO
VENTURA CA 93002

71458 98502594 801212 532100 3 00031186 4 07 03

AMOUNT OF PREVIOUS BILL
 7/20 PAYMENT RECEIVED

223.35
 138.42CR

***BALANCE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH \$84.93

MONTHLY SERVICE RATE 8/10 - 9/9 15.20

TOLL CALLS	7/ 7	LOSANGELES CA	213 258-4911	1 SE	.78
V600001926	7/ 7	FROM-ONNRD CA	805 488-3056	1 SE	.78
V600001832	7/ 7	LOSANGELES CA	213 650-6806	1 SE	.78
		FROM-ONNRD CA	805 488-3056	2 SD	.97
V600001545	7/ 7	SANBARBARA CA	805 964-6863	1 DE	.23
		FROM-ONNRD CA	805 488-3056	1 DE	.07
2059	7/13	LOSANGELES CA	213 258-4911	17 SD	4.73
1847	7/13	VENTURA CA	805 653-5014	2 SE	.95
V600001206	7/14	LOSANGELES CA	213 258-4911	2 SD	1.13
		FROM-ONNRD CA	805 488-3056	5 SD	1.85
V600001700	7/14	LOSANGELES CA	213 464-5100	3 SD	1.37
		FROM-ONNRD CA	805 488-3056	7 SD	2.33
VN00311136	7/16	LOSANGELES CA	213 464-5100	5 SD	1.85
		FROM-VNTURA CA	805 643-2232	3 SD	1.37
VN00311601	7/16	LOSANGELES CA	213 464-5100	7 SD	2.33
		FROM-VNTURA CA	805 643-2231	5 SD	1.85
VN00321405	7/16	LOSANGELES CA	213 772-6000	12 SE	2.63
		FROM-VNTURA CA	805 643-2231	1 SE	.62
V600001206	7/22	LOSANGELES CA	213 464-5100	16 SE	3.30
		FROM-ONNRD CA	805 488-3056	15 SE	3.14
VN00301139	7/24	LOSANGELES CA	213 464-5100	1 SD	.91
		FROM-VNTURA CA	805 653-9253		
V600002153	7/24	LOSANGELES CA	213 668-0979		
		FROM-ONNRD CA	805 488-3056		
V600002049	7/24	VENTURA CA	805 644-8667		
		FROM-ONNRD CA	805 488-3056		
V600001955	7/29	WHITTIER CA	213 694-2628		
		FROM-ONNRD CA	805 488-3056		
V600002014	7/29	WHITTIER CA	213 694-2628		
		FROM-ONNRD CA	805 488-3056		
VN00321417	7/29	WHITTIER CA	213 694-2628		
		FROM-VNTURA CA	805 644-5315		

***TOTAL TOLL CHARGES \$27.64

PER PUC DECISION NO. 93255 .02CR

FEDERAL EXCISE TAX .86

911 STATE TAX .21

***TOTAL CHARGES CURRENT MONTH \$43.89

FOR BILLING INQUIRIES
 CALL AT NO CHARGE

PLEASE INDICATE AMOUNT PAID

\$

AMOUNT DUE

DO NOT SEND CASH

ACCOUNT NUMBER

PAYMENT DUE BY

FOR BILLING INQUIRIES
 CALL AT NO CHARGE

805 486-7321

PLEASE INDICATE AMOUNT PAID

\$

AMOUNT DUE

128.82

DO NOT SEND CASH

ACCOUNT NUMBER

985-2594

AUG 28, 1981

PAYMENT DUE BY

***** METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY
 PO-BX AO
 VENTURA CA 93002

71458 98502594 801212 552100 3 00012882 4 09 05

NEW DIRECTIONS AND CARING FRIENDS

Ron Hartley — 525-0784

Doug Lindsay — 985-8305

Virginia Larson — 485-8962

AUGUST 1980						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

OCTOBER 1980						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SEPTEMBER 1980

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 World War II Began, 1939 LABOR DAY	2 V-J Day	3 MEETING at Doug's 3511 Hemlock, Oxnard 7:30 - 10 pm 985-8305	4	5 HAPPY BIRTHDAY DOUG!	6
7 Brunch 11AM Maggie O'Shea's Central Ave Camarillo	8 Happy Birthday Joh!	9 Bowling Wagon Wheel 8:30 pm <i>Jan Stone, La</i>	10 RON's 504-A-East Santa Barbara Ave. Santa Paula 7:30 - 10 pm 525-0784	11 also — game night 8 pm Jewish New Year (1st Day)	12 Jewish New Year (2nd Day)	13
14 Bowling Blue Chip Bowl Simi — L.A. Ave. 9 pm Star Spangled Banner Written, 1814	15 Cheap Movie	16	17 Virginia's 201 W. Vineyard #2 Oxnard 7:30 - 10 485-8962 Citizenship Day	18	19	20 Yom Kippur
21 Garage Sale Planning Meeting at Lydia's 3601 San Juan, OX Pot Luck dinner	22 Cheap Movie Fall Begins	23 Bowling Wagon Wheel 8:30 pm	24 SPECIAL EVENT <i>MAGIC MOUNTAIN!!!</i> Meet at Ron's 5 pm	25 Golf 'N Stuff 8 pm	26	27 Garage Sale at Lydia's 3601 San Juan, Oxnard 487-9997
28 Garage Sale at Lydia's 3601 San Juan, Oxnard 487-9997	29 Cheap Movie	30				

JANUARY 1980	FEBRUARY 1980	MARCH 1980	APRIL 1980	MAY 1980	JUNE 1980	JULY 1980	AUGUST 1980	SEPTEMBER 1980	OCTOBER 1980	NOVEMBER 1980	DECEMBER 1980
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Dear Marge

May 1st 1983

I am planning to come to Boston During the month of August about the 8th and stay about 2 weeks. Let me know your schedual so I can plan my flight.

I hope things have settled down for you Paul & I and a few others have been praying for you and the Boston Church.

I have been so happy. I'm in a wonderful relationship with Teri Rhodham. No power trips & we can communicate well, we've been learning how to listen and really talk how we really feel and not just about surface stuff either. Lots of laughter and caring. When you've been through some bad relationships you truly know when things are great. In June '85 we will celebrate 6 months of loving & laughter. We're going to look for rings when we get some time off our busy scheduals. I'd say engagement rings. But we are wise enough to believe in long engagements like another year and a half. I can tell you all about it when I get out there. Teri is singing in a Quartet led by Wayne Allen who is our Choir director wonderful man who has led the Choir to sing beautifully. Isn't it amazing what God can do.

Well I'll write soon and please let me have your schedual

Love Linda J. Derbyshire

P.S. Were having my dad's

rethiment Party today 35 years at Mager

Fancy ~~and~~ Loings

pt.

I got my camera

Shell finally & wax

Personalized license Plates
L.S. Derby

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEMBERS' CLASS: Next Sunday at 5 p.m. we will begin a new members' class for those who are interested in joining the church. You must attend 3 classes (1 on doctrines, 2 on church polity) prior to membership. Deacons are asked to please try to attend. (1/4/81 - 5:00 p.m.)

WORKSHOP ON THE LAITY: All laity who are interested are invited to MCC Long Beach for a workshop led by our District Chair of the Commission on the Laity, Larry Fernandez of MCC L.A. The pastor will be going, if a car can be found. (The pastor's car is in need of laying on of hands!) Anyone planning to go, who has a car, please see the pastor immediately after service. (Saturday 1/3: 9:30 a.m. - workshop will last morning and afternoon. Be prepared to buy lunch in Long Beach).

The pastor has been invited to preach at Ocean-side MCC and at Santa Ana MCC. Will give you dates for these at a later time.

PROJECT RESURRECTION: Coming later this month is Project Resurrection, an all day Saturday workshop. We will give dates for this later on as well, but save the last Saturday of this month, until we can be sure of the date.

BIBLE STUDY: We would like to begin Bible Study again, this time with a study of the New Testament, to begin at 5:00 p.m. at the church, Sunday evenings, beginning January 11th. Those who are interested, please see the pastor after service.

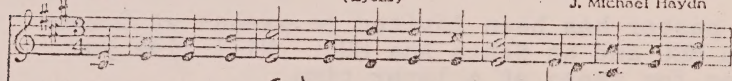
RAP GROUPS: We would like to start the rap groups again, this time after services at 8:30. Is there a better time for this and/or the Bible study? Let's set a time and place.

O Worship Our God

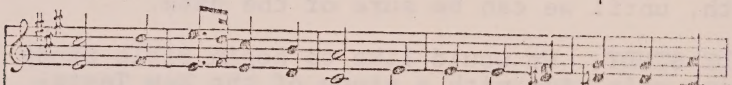
Robert Grant

(Lyons)

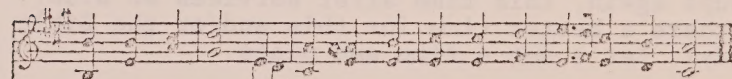
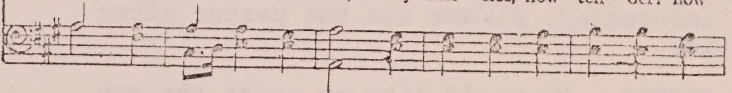
J. Michael Haydn



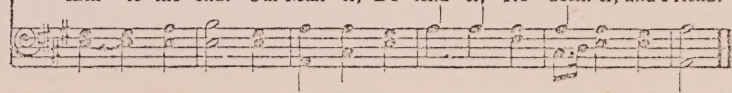
1. O wor-ship our God all-glo-rious a-bove, And grate-ful-ly
 2. Thy boun-ti-ful care, what tongue can re-cite? It breathes in the
 3. Frail chil-dren of dust, and fee-ble as frail, In Thee do we



sing His won-der-ful love; Our Shield and De-fend-er, the
 air, it shines in the light; It streams from the hills, it de-
 trust, nor find Thee to fail; Thy mer-cies, how ten-der! how



An-cient of Days, Pa-vil-ioned in splen-dor and gird-ed with praise.
 scends to the plain, And sweet-ly dis-tills in the dew and the rain.
 firm to the end! Our Mak-er, De-fend-er, Re-deem-er, and Friend!



September 19, 1981

MCC Boston (1)
131 Cambridge
Boston, MA 02114

MCC Boston,

May we firstly congratulate you on your receipt of Rev. Marge Ragona. She is a very special lady to us and we're sure she'll be as valuable to Boston as she was to Ventura.

When Rev. Ragona left us however, she unintentionally left us in a bit of financial bind. In the process of making telephone arrangements with your church, she ran up a huge phone bill without realizing quite how huge it was. As you may know, MCC Ventura is still a fairly small but growing church. However, the phone bills left by Rev. Ragona definitely stunted the growth in our treasury. She also left owing a personal debt to a member of the congregation and several valuable collectors coins given to the church were accidentally packed in Rev. Ragona's belongings when she moved.

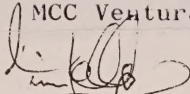
The reason we've taken so long in contacting you is that we wanted to be fair to Marge in giving her the benefit of the doubt...allowing her to move, get settled in Boston etc. However, our General Conference Delegates spoke with her in Houston regarding these matters and to date we've received no response from Marge about her intentions. Our church has recently had and will soon be incurring some drastic financial changes. Top among these, an unpaid worship Coordinator, 400% increase in rent, and the costs involved in bringing our own new pastor across the country. Needless to say, the fact is we haven't the financial means for paying a \$600.00 phone bill.

Our thought is that, since many of the calls were made to discuss Rev. Ragona's new position with MCC Boston, that we shouldn't have to pay the entirety of the bill. Therefore we would

(2)

like to suggest that MCC Ventura split the telephone bill with MCC Boston. We would welcome any thoughts or responses you might have, but we earnestly ask your sincere consideration of this and the other above mentioned matters. We deeply appreciate your time. Our best wishes to Boston and Boston's community.

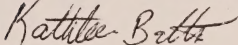
In God's Love,
MCC Ventura



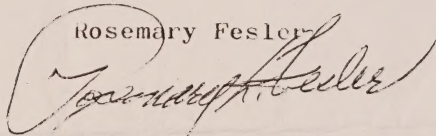
Tim Kelly
Worship Coordinator

BOARD MEMBERS

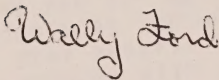
Kathleen Battan



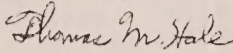
Rosemary Fesler



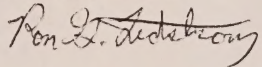
Wally Ford



Tom Hale



Ron Lidstrom



4667 TELEGRAPH ROAD, VENTURA, CALIFORNIA 93003 (805) 642-3211

February 27, 1981

Rev. Marge Ragona
Metropolitan Church of Ventura
4949 Foothill Rd.
Ventura, CA 93003

Dear Marge,

Thank you for agreeing to speak to the students at Ventura College. Enclosed for your benefit is a copy of the semester program with your specific program circled.

Also enclosed for your use is a guest parking permit. If you need any special equipment for your program let me know so I can arrange it for you.

I am looking forward to your program.

Sincerely,

Margaret E. O'Neill

Margaret E. O'Neill
Women's Center Coordinator

